

Carolina Clips

Continued from page 1

partner."
 "Heterosexuality will be regarded as appropriate," School Superintendent David Ricketts said in defending that specific change.

The policy would also require that abortion not be taught "as an acceptable form of birth control."
 Parents will also have control over whether their children participate in the family life education classes.

Ricketts said the proposal "is not a vast change" from current policy.

"It is more a clarification that will put in safeguards," Ricketts said. He added, "It will be very helpful if the parents and schools work together."

Ricketts comments seemed to be aimed at local conservative groups that had called for local school systems to have total control over school curriculums.

At the March meeting, Eugene Pritchard of the Christian Coalition had presented the board with a petition that asks the NC General Assembly to "remove all control for school curriculum and instruction from the state Department of Public Instruction," and return it to local school boards. The petition had been circulated throughout McDowell County after the eighth-grade worksheet incident in February.

Pritchard also asked the school board members to sign it. Of the board's members, only David Reel signed the petition, though he declined to comment about his decision.

Board Chair Danny Willis said he and other school board members were concerned about the wording in the petition. That sparked an angry exchange between Pritchard and Willis.

"We don't agree with what (the petition) says," Willis told Pritchard.

"We'll remember your comments," Pritchard responded. "I have been very careful to be as impartial as we can. I can promise you that your names will appear in the county again and again."

"I don't appreciate seeing my name in the paper saying that we don't have morals. I do have morals," Willis retorted.

Man Charged With Intent to Kill for Spitting
 GREENVILLE, SC—Greenville County sheriff's investigators now aren't sure if the man who they

alleged tried to kill a deputy by spitting on him actually has HIV.

Bobby F. Spoon, 39, of Pelzer, was charged recently with assault and battery on a police officer with intent to kill. The arrest warrant alleges Spoon spit on a deputy's face while being arraigned on other charges last month.

The charge was not based on a medical report but was filed after various people told deputies that Spoon had HIV, sheriff's Lt. Sam Simmons said.

Now investigators are waiting for medical report results. If those show Spoon does not have the virus, the charge will be amended to a lesser offense, Simmons said.

The sheriff's office does not have a policy on when to file charges in these types of cases. In the future, deputies probably will wait until medical tests are finished, Simmons said.

State Officials Worry About Home HIV Tests

GREENVILLE, SC—State health officials worry it will be harder to track AIDS patients if the legislature approves a bill to allow the use of home HIV test kits.

"We're afraid there's an epidemic out there that we can't keep track of," said Jim Testor, spokesman for the HIV division of the Department of Health and Environmental Control.

The kits will increase HIV testing and provide anonymity to those reluctant to be tested, supporters say.

"Many people don't want to even ask for an HIV test," said Rep. June Shissias (R-Columbia), the bill's sponsor. "They don't want anyone else to know there's any reason for them to be worried about AIDS."

More than 10,000 South Carolinians have tested positive for HIV since 1986, Testor said. DHEC performs about 45,000 HIV tests annually.

At least two drug manufacturers are awaiting approval from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to begin making and selling home HIV test kits. A decision is expected later this year.

Mrs. Shissias said her bill, which went to the House Judiciary Committee April 18, would waive current state laws that require that the names of people who have tested positive for HIV or AIDS be on record with the state.

Because the kit would allow people to be tested anonymously, waiver of the current laws is necessary to allow the tests to be sold in South

UNC NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY STALLS...AGAIN

The struggle to secure protection from discrimination for lesbians and gay men within the University of North Carolina system has encountered yet another stumbling block.

A special March 30 work session was slated to allow the 32-member UNC Board of Governors to discuss a proposal to ban anti-gay discrimination. However, only two board members, including the session's sponsor, Cary attorney Joe Stallings, showed up.

Stallings is the chair of the board's non-discrimination subcommittee, which unanimously approved the proposal and sent it to the full panel for a vote last October. A full board vote was originally scheduled for the November meeting, but was then dropped from the agenda without comment. The issue came before the full board again in January. At that meeting, though, Travis Porter, chair of the Board of Governors, referred the issue to the Governance Committee without a vote.

UNC system spokesperson Joannie Worthington said at the time that Porter chose to delay a vote by the full board so that board members would have ample opportunity to discuss the proposed change at subsequent committee meetings.

Judging by the March 30 meeting, though, not many members are interested in talking about protecting the university system's lesbian and gay faculty, staff, and students from anti-gay discrimination. The only other attendee besides Stallings was Mark Bibbs, a Duke law student and member of the board.

Despite the poor showing for the work session, Stallings remained optimistic about the ultimate passage of his committee's proposal.

Asked if the other board members' absence from the meeting was a sign of easy passage of the proposal or its imminent defeat, Stallings said, "I wouldn't read too much into this either way."

He added that the lack of attendance was not particularly surprising. "We feel that within the university itself there was a broad consensus to support amending the policy," Stallings said. "The history of this university is one of openness, is one of free inquiry, is one where people should be judged based on what they can do."

Currently, ten of the university system's 16 schools offer some form of protection for gay men and lesbians.

A future date for a vote on the proposal has not been set yet.

Carolina, she said. Companies would have to report to DHEC the number of positive test results.

The test would require the person being tested to lance a finger, place a drop of blood on a piece of filter paper and mail it to the company. Within a few days, the individual could call a toll-free number to get the results, said FDA spokesman Arthur Whitmore.

If the test was negative, the caller would hear a prerecorded message. If the test were positive, an operator would talk to the caller directly to give the results and make referrals to local doctors and clinics, Whitmore said.


Kits would cost between \$30 and \$40 and could be purchased at drug stores, Mrs. Shissias said

Chapel Hill Recognizes Domestic Partnerships

Continued from page 1

Besides Faley and Coleman, speakers included Jan Allen, former president of the NC National Organization for Women and an official with the Orange County Democratic Party; Faley's partner Susan Johnston; and Chapel Hill attorney Lightning Brown, who spoke as a member of the Orange Lesbian and Gay Association.

Chapel Hill residents who wish to register their domestic partnerships can do so at the Town Clerk's office. Both partners must present identification, and complete and sign an affidavit of commitment and financial support. Then, after payment of a \$50 fee, the couple will receive a certificate of recognition.



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