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Former UNC-system President C.D. Spangler mingles with current system President Molly Broad and William Friday at a reception held Thursday.

Award honors Spangler for impact on University

BY VALERIE BREZINA
ASSISTANT STATE & NATIONAL EDITOR

Like a stalwart ship captain, C.D. Spangler Jr. guided the UNC system through the turbulent tides of education during his 11-year tenure.

Thursday night, the UNC Board of Governors honored his dedication and leadership by presenting him with the system's highest accolade — the University Award.

Spangler retired in July. During his tenure, he strived to remain focused on the interests of students.

Remembering his roots, he strived to keep tuition low to ensure that every North Carolinian, regardless of economic situation, could afford quality higher education.

"My mother and father could not attend college because they could not afford to," Spangler said. "No one should be excluded from education because of his or her parent's financial situation."

Spangler said some people suggested that UNC-system officials raise tuition but that he never supported the proposal. "The quality of education we offer is high, and we could increase our tuition and still keep the classrooms full... but this would be an error of judgment."

A video described how the Spangler family dedicated much of its wealth and time to improve the N.C. public school system. The family's support and enthusiasm for N.C. schools extended far

beyond its own education. Russell Robinson II, a longtime friend of the family, who led the tribute, said the award was important because it recognized the Spanglers' dedication to service.

"I truly believe what we are doing here is unique, by honoring the people who exemplify the very best in experiencing and supporting N.C. public education," he said.

Spangler said he had great faith in the UNC system and that he thought it would continue to achieve new levels of success.

"The challenge will be forever with us — the challenge to make our weak students strong and our strong students great," he said.

Throughout his presidency, Spangler stressed the UNC system's positive economic impact on the state. In his speech, he said he believed North Carolina would continue to grow and would become an educational and economic powerhouse.

"I could always feel the positive effects of the 16 campuses and their graduates on the state," he said. "I believe North Carolina will continue to make educational progress, just as it has made great economic progress."

Spangler concluded his acceptance speech by thanking supporters of him and his family. He reiterated his respect for the accomplishments of the UNC-system. "UNC will continue to be the envy of the nation."

Company pledges money to BCC

■ 360° Communications has pledged \$100,000 to the BCC building campaign.

STAFF REPORT

Chancellor Michael Hooker announced Thursday that 360° Communications had pledged \$100,000 to the Sonja H. Stone Black Cultural Center building campaign.

"They wanted to contribute to some worthwhile cause," Hooker said.

"This (project) is high on our list of priorities." The Board of Trustees has

announced that completing funding for the center is one of its top 10 priorities for the next two years.

Alumni and friends of the BCC as well as outside corporations have pledged \$3.5 million to the building campaign.

Chapel Hill developer Sally Brown has been actively involved



Chancellor MICHAEL HOOKER said the donation was essential to the BCC building campaign.

in raising funds for the new building. "I think (the donation) is a big help," Brown said.

"It's a sizeable and very generous donation. It gives great momentum to the project."

"Other people will take notice of this donation and wonder what is so special about this project," Brown said. "Hopefully when they take a closer look, they'll give too."

Dennis Foster, president and chief executive officer of 360° Communications in Chicago presented the gift to Hooker along with James White, president of 360° Long Distance in the Research Triangle Park.

"Our support of this center is an extension of our commitment to the growth and strength of the community," Foster stated in a press release. "By contributing to this campaign, 360° is investing in tomorrow's work force and continued vitality of our business in North Carolina."

Hooker stated in a press release that he felt the support of 360° Communications was essential to the new facility, "not only to make the new building a reality but to strengthen the university-corporate partnership that will make the center a leading commu-

SEE DONATION, PAGE 4

Local economy ranks among top in state

■ The unemployment rate for Orange County reached a 20-year low point in 1996.

BY STEVE MRAZ
CITY EDITOR

Orange County has the fourth best economy out of North Carolina's 100 counties, but it might not be the best place in the state to find affordable housing.

The county moved up 11 spots from its 15th place ranking during the 1994-95 fiscal year.

According to figures presented Thursday during the sixth-annual State of the Local Economy Breakfast, the average cost for a house in the county between January and September 1997 was \$198,600.

More than 450 local business people and elected officials packed the Friday Center to view graphs, charts and animated images depicting several aspects of the economy.

Ted Abernathy, director of the Orange County Economic Development Commission, who conducted the 45-minute presentation, said the local economy was driven by businesses with fewer than 50 employees.

According to statistics, county businesses with fewer than 50 employees grew 34 percent between 1990 and 1995, and businesses with more than 50 employees only grew 4 percent during the same period.

But of the total annual wages paid in Orange County during 1995, 46 percent came from the state government and, more specifically, from the University.

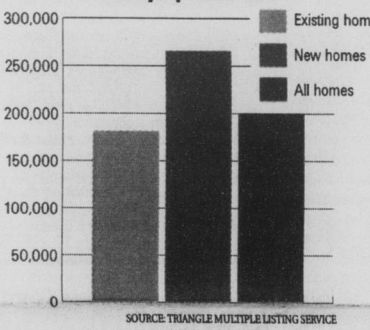
"UNC is the predominate engine in our economy," Abernathy said.

From 1976 to 1996, the University's student population has risen from 20,293 to 24,141. Jobs at the University

Livin' large and paying for it

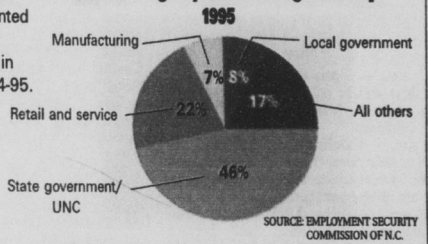
The Orange County Economic Development Commission presented statistics on the state of the local economy Thursday morning. Orange County was ranked as having the fourth best economy in North Carolina during fiscal year 1995-96, up from 15th in 1994-95.

Average home sale prices in Orange County January-September 1997



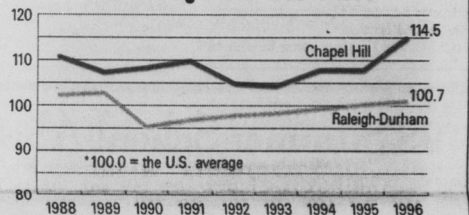
SOURCE: TRIANGLE MULTIPLE LISTING SERVICE

Annual wages paid in Orange County 1995



SOURCE: EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION OF N.C.

Cost of living trends: 1988 to 1996



SOURCE: ACCRA SURVEYS; GREATER RALEIGH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

DTH/JAKE ZARNBERG

Officials, residents bring home a new outlook on growth

■ Officials, developers, business leaders and residents traveled to Ann Arbor, Mich., to learn about sustainable growth.

BY HUGH PRESSLEY
STAFF WRITER

After three days away, they're back. Officials and residents from Orange County traveled to Ann Arbor, Mich., on Monday to learn about the importance of sustainability and development issues affecting college towns.

Representatives from both UNC and the University of Michigan attended the three-day conference, organized by the Public-Private Partnership of Chapel Hill.

Chapel Hill Mayor Rosemary Waldorf said the goal of the conference was to give participants insight on how a similar college town dealt with issues that affect its community.

"Most (participants) were interested in trying to understand more of what sustainability is," she said. "Sustainability is a way of planning for the future of the town, starting with the assumption that (the residents) need to



Town Council member LEE PAVAO said the trip was a way for everyone to learn about controlled development.

SEE ANN ARBOR, PAGE 4

Journalism professor Jim Shumaker began teaching editorial writing at UNC in 1972. He is the inspiration of the comic strip "Shoe" by Jeff MacNelly.

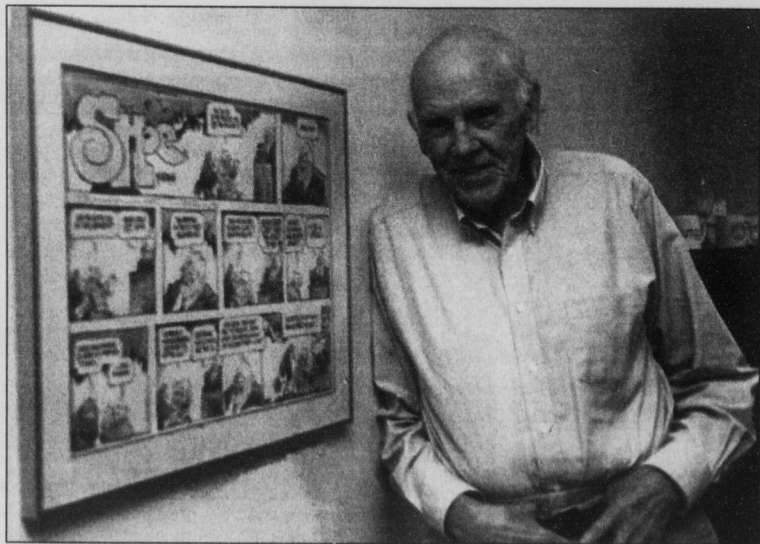
If the 'SHU' fits

BY KAITLIN GURNEY
STAFF WRITER

Although the University is represented by a Tar Heel, the School of Journalism and Mass Communication itself is represented by the comic strip "Shoe."

This year marks the 20th anniversary of Jeff MacNelly's comic strip named for journalism professor Jim Shumaker.

Shumaker's warm heart and gruff exterior are loved by both students and faculty, but the



DTH/SEAN BUSHER

world can glimpse him in the guise of P. Martin Shoemaker in MacNelly's "Shoe." Shumaker remembers when, in 1969, MacNelly came to him while he was editor of The Chapel Hill Weekly and said he wanted to try drawing editorial cartoons.

"He was absolutely incredible, I thought," Shumaker said.

MacNelly would take Shumaker's sketch and come back with a "rough," which Shumaker said "improved the hell on my idea."

"It ought to be against the law to have that

kind of talent," Shumaker said.

MacNelly later won three Pulitzer Prizes for his editorial cartoons.

In 1977 "Shoe" appeared. The comic strip features a flock of birds starring Purple Martin Shoemaker, the cynical editor of the Treetops Tattler Tribune who smokes cigars and wears ragged tennis shoes.

"I don't see the connection, though others do," Shumaker said. "Although he does wear ragged tennis shoes, and when I was the edi-

SEE SHUMAKER, PAGE 4

INSIDE Friday

Technology 101

What's up with Western Carolina University officials say their new computer requirement should benefit students in the future. Page 4

Feeling lucky?

A new casino opened on the N.C. Cherokee Reservation on Thursday to an over-capacity crowd. Page 5

You'll pay for this!

Some UNC departments feel pressured to make students pay for the pages they print from computers in their labs. Page 2

Today's weather

Mostly cloudy; low 50s
Weekend: Partly cloudy; low 50s

No morality can be founded on authority, even if the authority were divine.

A.J. Ayer