



The University and Towns
IN BRIEF

Lectures to Highlight Genome Scientists

A lecture series hosted by UNC's Center for Genome Sciences will bring to campus more than a dozen national experts in the fields of functional genomics, proteomics and bioinformatics.

The first lecture is at noon on Aug. 27 in room 136 of the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building and will feature Oliver Smithies, a professor of pathology and laboratory medicine at the UNC School of Medicine.

His address, "Mouse Solutions to Pharmacological Problems," will be free and open to the public.

Other lectures, which will continue through May 6, will bring doctors from the University of California at San Francisco, the University of Washington and Stanford, Harvard, Yale, Rockefeller, N.C. State and Indiana universities.

There will also be addresses from experts from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and the Salk Institute.

More information is available at <http://www.med.unc.edu/geneticsdept>.

Grant Lets Researchers Study Teen Spirituality

A \$3.96 million grant received by a team of UNC sociologists will allow them to conduct the first comprehensive national survey of the influence of religion and spirituality on teenagers.

The grant was given by the Lilly Endowment, Inc., the nation's single largest funder in the field of religion.

The study will consist of a national random-sample phone survey of 4,000 adolescents and parents and in-depth interviews with 350 participants, each of which will be conducted twice over a three-year period.

Repeating the surveys will allow the

researchers to identify beliefs and practices and track changes in them over time.

The survey, which will be available in Spanish and English, will reach diverse groups of people including blacks, Hispanics and Jews.

When the study is complete in 2005, researchers will hold one conference for philanthropists, policy-makers, social workers and journalists and a second conference for religious educators and youth ministers.

Dr. Christian Smith, a UNC professor of sociology, is the principal investigator for the study.

More information is available at <http://www.youthandreligion.org>.

Local Youth League Seeks Soccer Coaches

Rainbow Soccer is looking for volunteers to coach all age levels.

Coaching requires a commitment of approximately four to five hours per week, with two weekday afternoon practices and a Saturday game. Practices start Sept. 4.

The league is for players ages three and up.

Contact Alice Craft at 967-8797 to sign up or for more information.

Center Offers Services To Victims of Violence

The Family Violence Prevention Center of Orange County, a Chapel Hill-based nonprofit organization, has opened its doors for victims of family violence, their friends and family members.

The center is seeking volunteers to work as crisis line support personnel, court advocates, community educators and child care providers.

Training is provided for volunteers in all areas.

Contact Jenn Barr at 929-3872 for more information.

Agency Needs Mentors To Help At-Risk Youth

Volunteers for Youth, a nonprofit United Way agency, is looking for mentors.

Their Governor's One-on-One Program matches at-risk youth from Orange County with adult mentors.

The agency is seeking male volunteers from northern Orange County in particular.

The program will hold its next training session from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Sept. 25 and 26 at the office in Carrboro.

Contact Eileen Hannan at 967-4511 for more information.

Freedom House Hosts Yard Sale Fund-Raiser

Freedom House, a substance abuse service provider located in Chapel Hill, will host its 2nd annual yard sale from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 25 at 104 New Stateside Drive.

The activity raises money to fund projects and help cover some of the shelter's operating costs.

For more information or to donate items for the yard sale call Leigh Loraine or Kathy Berman at 942-2803.

American Red Cross Opens Pittsboro Office

The American Red Cross will hold its Ribbon Cutting Ceremony to commemorate its move into a new office.

The ceremony will be held at 2 p.m. on Sept. 10 at 959 East St. in Pittsboro, the site of the new office.

Contact the Mid-Carolina Asheville office at (336) 629-2399.

Center Hosts Program On Conflict Resolution

The Dispute Settlement Center of Orange County is offering training in communication and conflict resolution skills from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Aug. 30.

The program will be held in Chapel Hill at a cost of \$90.

For more information, contact the Dispute Settlement Center of Orange County at 929-8800.

Bilingual School Makes New Building Home

The Language Center, home to a French and Spanish language immersion program for grade schoolers, will open this year in its new location.

The center is located in the building previously occupied by Chapel Hill Bible Church at the corner of Purefoy Road and Mason Farm Road.

It is being leased from Chapel Hill Kahillah.

The non-profit center's classes begin Sept. 4. It is currently enrolling students in the morning language immersion preschool programs and after school programs for children 3-12 years old.

Contact Kateri Carver-Akers at 942-9060 for more information.

Easley Advocates Internet Tax

By ALEX KAPLUN
State & National Editor

Gov. Mike Easley is among 42 governors with their names on a letter calling for the repeal of a moratorium banning states from collecting taxes from Internet sales.

The governors sent a letter Friday to all Congress members asking lawmakers not to renew the 1998 moratorium.

"If you care about a level playing field for Main Street retail businesses and local control of states, local governments and schools, extend the moratorium on taxing Internet access only with authorization for the states to streamline and simplify the existing sales tax system," the letter states. "To do otherwise perpetuates a fundamental inequity and ignores a growing problem."

Several of the governors who did not sign the letter were from states, such as California and Virginia, that rely heavily on Internet companies.

The moratorium is set to expire in October, but a proposal to eliminate it is

sitting in a Senate Finance Committee.

At the request of committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., the Congressional Budget Office released a report earlier this month about the numerous difficulties in collecting sales taxes from out-of-state entities such as Web-based companies.

The report states that it is structurally difficult for states to collect taxes outside their borders and that the system forces consumers to make purchasing decisions based on possible taxes.

The report also concludes that states could lose \$20 billion in potential revenue by 2003.

That kind of money could help states, many of which have struggled to construct a balanced budget in light of a worsening national economy.

In some states, revenue from sales tax can make up to 50 percent of the total tax revenue.

Baucus' spokesman Michael Siegel would not comment about the senator's stance on the issue, but he did say Baucus planned to play an active role in

the debate.

"This is very much a state issue," Siegel said. "But he has wanted to play a helpful role in dealing with this issue."

Proponents of the moratorium have argued that a repeal of the moratorium could cripple the nation's Internet commerce industry in the wake of the recent failure of numerous dot-com companies.

The moratorium is based on two Supreme Court decisions that prohibit states from collecting sales tax from companies that do not have a warehouse or some other physical presence such as a warehouse in the state.

Brad Woodhouse, a spokesman for Rep. Bob Etheridge, D-N.C., said the representative was opposed to a repeal of the moratorium because it would hurt Internet commerce.

"The congressman is in favor of the current moratorium to allow the continued buildup of the Internet sales industry."

The State & National Editor can be reached at stntdesk@unc.edu.

Bush Expects Economic Recovery

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration is pinning its budget hopes on a rapid, robust economic recovery driven by its huge tax cut despite figures released Wednesday that show a steep drop in the government surpluses projected for 2001 and 2002.

The White House Office of Management and Budget is expecting an economic rebound next year, including a growth rate of 3.2 percent in gross domestic product. That's nearly double the anemic 1.7 percent rate forecast for this year and higher than the 2.8 percent rate consensus of many private economists.

Budget Director Mitch Daniels said the 10-year, \$1.35 trillion tax cut President Bush signed into law in June — coupled with restrained government spending and the Federal Reserve's interest rate cuts — would boost U.S. economic growth and fortify the budget bottom line.

"Economic growth is the key to continuing this very strong fiscal picture," Daniels told reporters. "A return to economic growth will be the focus of the

president and the administration in the months ahead."

The impact of the economic slowdown and the \$40 billion in tax refund checks was apparent in the midyear budget outlook released Wednesday by the White House.

It estimated a fiscal 2001 surplus of \$158 billion, only \$1 billion above the tax receipts that flow to Social Security. The revision is \$123 billion less than the last estimate in April but the surplus still will be the second-largest ever.

A similarly tiny non-Social Security surplus of \$1 billion is now expected in fiscal 2002, which begins Oct. 1.

That represents a \$58 billion drop from the April estimate, for an overall surplus of \$173 billion next year that is almost entirely Social Security.

An even starker view of the shrinking surplus may come when the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office issues a rival forecast next week.

Budget analysts widely believe the CBO projections will show a less favorable 2001 surplus and be less aggressive in predicting future economic growth rates.

Despite the near-term decline, the OMB expects an overall surplus of more than \$3.1 trillion over 10 years — down from \$5.6 trillion before the tax cut and other changes — even accounting for the tax cut and proposed spending increases.

Campus Calendar

Today

6 p.m. — The Carolina Academic Team will hold an information session and practice in Union 224 for both old and prospective members. Anyone interested in college bowl, Jeopardy!, quiz bowl or trivia is welcome to attend.

No experience is necessary.

For the Record

In the Aug. 21 article "Greek Houses Meet Sprinkler Deadline," The Daily Tar Heel was given inaccurate information regarding the closing of the Pi Lambda Phi fraternity house. Fraternity representatives have said the house is closed for renovations, not financial reasons. The Daily Tar Heel regrets the error.

The Daily Tar Heel

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ADVISING QUESTION OF THE DAY:

"I need another class, but nothing is open.
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CELEBRATE

Carolina Cool

The James M. Johnston Center for Undergraduate excellence invites all UNC undergrads to three special events celebrating the first week of classes:

First Cosmopolitan All Male Chorus
in concert, Tuesday August 21, 12:30 p.m.
FREE COLD DRINKS!

Coffee Talk: A guided introduction to coffees of the world.
Wednesday, August 22, 2-4 p.m.
Johnston Center travel mugs available for purchase — get yours re-filled at a discount all year!

Cookout & Concert on the Terrace: World music by Mappamundi.
Thursday, August 23, noon.
Join us EVERY THURSDAY at NOON for FOOD & MUSIC!

The Johnston Center is in Graham Memorial, on Franklin Street next to the Morehead Planetarium. Watch for upcoming events, or subscribe to our events calendar at jcue@unc.edu!

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