Report Suggests Cloning Likely Would Fail

Last August, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill making it a crime for scientists to clone humans.

By NATHAN COLETTA

Local researchers say they support the findings of a report released Friday by the National Research Council stating that reproductive cloning would be prone to failure and should be banned

by the U.S. Congress.

Based on experience with animals, the 11-member panel of scientists conducting the study said cloning aimed at creating a child would be dangerous for the woman, fetus and newborn. They also decided that any such attempt would most likely end in failure.

The report considered only the scientific and medical concerns of cloning.

It did not examine the social and ethical implications of reproductive cloning, should it be determined medically safe

The NRC often provides scientific

advice to the federal government.

UNC biology Professor Walter
Bollenbacher said most members of the scientific community agree with the recommendation of the NRC to ban reproductive cloning. "We begin to run great social risks by allowing cloning," he said. "I think a ban is appropriate. We are taking a fundamental stand on what can be done with human cloning."

A bill that would make it a crime for scientists to clone a human for any reason passed the U.S. House of Representatives in August. The Senate is set to debate the legislation next month.

Some scientific organizations - including the NRC - and university researchers are recommending that Bush allow research and cloning of stem cells.

The NRC said stem cell research has great potential to repair damaged tissue

and to develop medical therapies to treat life-threatening diseases such as cancer or heart disease.

Bob Lowman, associate vice chancellor for research at UNC, said he thinks cloning for the reproduction of a human being is inappropriate but that stem cell research should continue.

He also said a proposed ban on cloning would not limit any research at the University. "Currently, there is no research even close to approaching the cloning of a human being," Lowman said. "There is no embryonic stem cell research taking place on campus, so there

would be no impact on research here."
The NRC panel concluded that any

reproductive cloning ban that might be implemented should be reassessed after no less than five years.

The report states that the proposed ban should only be lifted if there is scientific evidence that proves human cloning is safe. It also states that debates considering the ethical and social consequences of cloning should take place before the proposed ban is removed.

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

Developments in the War on Terrorism

American Taliban Heading to U.S.

■ Two months after his capture in Afghanistan, John Walker Lindh began the journey back to the United States on Tuesday to face charges of conspiring



Rumsfeld Defends Handling of Afghans

■ Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld insisted Tuesday that the United States is treating terrorist suspects held at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, humanely and in accordance with international rules. See Page 5.

Palestinian Gunman Wounds Eight

■ A Palestinian gunman shot Israelis waiting at a bus stop Tuesday in the heart of Jerusalem, wounding eight people, hours after Israeli commandos stormed an explosives lab and killed four Islamic militants in the West Bank.

Campus Calendar

10 a.m. – The Sports Clubs Council is hosting the UNC Sport Council is nosting the UNC Sport Clubs Membership Drive until 2 p.m. in the Pit. Come meet representatives looking for members. Clubs may be recreational, instructional and/or competitive. Many clubs do not require any prior experience, so please come and have all your questions answered. For information call 962-1013.

noon – **Campus Y** presents "A Show of Hands for Peace and Unity" at Polk Place. Show of Hands brings the UNC community together to join hands in a visual symbol of peace and unity among all people. The event celebrates the spirit and vision of Martin Luther King Jr. and includes brief presentations from cultural groups, readings and speakers.

After the event's formal conclusion, there will be an open microphone for people to share their personal experiences with peace, unity and diversity.

Sun-Wed 10:30-2AM

Back by

popular

demand at

super-burger

3:30 p.m. - The Association of English Majors invites all English majors to come enjoy stimulating bever ages and conversation at the AEM's Coffee Hour. Chat with English professors and fellow majors and get free coffee and cookies in Donovan Lounge, located on the second floor of Greenlaw Hall.

5 p.m. – Campus Y and the MLK Birthday Celebration Committee presents "Breaking the Bread" in the Toy Lounge of Dey Hall. "Breaking the Bread" is a dinner discussion that brings together people from different social and cultural backgrounds together in fellowship in honor of Dr. King's vision. Tables will consist of no more than six persons, which will provide more intimate and insightful conversation. For more information, contact Matthew Shaw at 914-6658 or Paymon Rouhanifard at 672-7400.

5:30 p.m. - Looking for ways to get involved in the community? Come learn about volunteer opportunities in 103 Beard Hall. The meeting is sponsored by **Taking Action By Service** and is open to everyone. Refreshments will be served

6 p.m. – **The Wesley Foundation** will host dinner and a discussion on prayer at The Wesley Foundation at 214 Pittsboro Street, across from The

6:30 p.m. – The UNC United Nations Organization is holding a general interest meeting in 213 Graham Memorial. Come learn about the UNC Model United Nations Conference, the Harvard United Nations Conference, UNICEF, Adopt-A-Minefield and much more. For more information, con-Karine Dube dube@email.unc.edu.

7 p.m. – **Alpha Kappa Psi,** the coed professional business fraternity, is having their first session of formal rush in Gardner Hall. Either come tonight or Wednesday and meet in the foyer in professional dress!

Interested in planning the 6th Annual Holocaust Remembrance Week? Come learn more at an interest meeting in Union 226, hosted by the **Carolina** Union Activities Board. Questions? Nathan Contact (ncherry@email.unc.edu) or (lawald@email.unc.edu).

7:15 p.m. – Habitat for Humanity is holding a general interest meeting in Bingham Hall Auditorium.

7:30 p.m. - Campus Y and the MLK Birthday Celebration Committee present "Coretta Scott King, the Woman Behind the Man" in

the Toy Lounge of Dey Hall. This tribute will describe, through a multimedia presentation, a brief history of her life, present her contributions to the movement and explain how she has worked to help keep Dr. King's memory and message alive. For more information, contact Brandi Jackson at 544-8046 or brjackso@email.unc.edu.

Items of Interest

Group sales are going on for the Carolina V-Day Initiative's production of Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues." The show will be held at 8 p.m. Feb. 15 and Feb. 16 in Memorial Hall. Groups of 10 or more will receive a \$1 discount for each ticket purchased by February 1. Regular ticket sales are by Peritary 1. Regular tacket sales as \$7 for students and \$10 for non-students and will begin February 4. Tickets can be purchased at the box office or by call-ing 962-1449.

The Daily Tar Heel

P.O. Box 3257, Chapel Hill, NC 27515 Katie Hunter, Editor, 962-4086 Advertising & Business, 962-1163 News, Features, Sports, 962-0245 © 2002 DTH Publishing Corp. All rights reserved

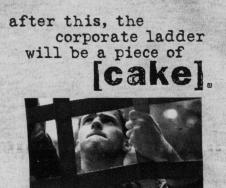
The household estimation method is

used as a last resort when census work-

ers repeatedly fail to find anyone home.

The court will hear an appeal from





TODAY Carolina

Women's Tennis vs. UNC-G

6pm at Cone-Kenfield Tennis center

In the course of facing challenges like this, you'll learn how to think on your feet. Stay cool under pressure. Take charge. *Talk to an* Army Institute of Leadership rep. You'll find there's nothing like a little climbing to help prepare you for getting to the top.

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WEDNESDAY



Questions? Email aporush@hotmail.com or call Julie @ 914-0204

THURSDAY

Supreme Court to Consider Utah's Second Census Case

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The Supreme Court agreed Tuesday to consider whether census takers may estimate the size of one household based on that of its neighbors, an inexact technique crit-ics say flouts the Constitution's requirement for an "actual enumeration.

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MONTH

Th-Sat 10:30-3AM

SUNDAY

Utah, which claims that methods used in the 2000 census robbed the state of one of its congressional seats, giving it to North Carolina. The court also wants

both sides to give their views on whether the Supreme Court has jurisdiction over the case. "I'm elated Utah will finally have its day in court," Attorney General Mark Shurtleff said Tuesday. "I always told

everyone we had a case and that the Supreme Court would hear it."

If the justices conclude that they do

not have jurisdiction, the decision of a lower court against Utah would stand.

The court is expected to hear the case by next fall, and its ruling would not affect races to fill congressional seats in the November election.

Utah lost a separate census challenge last year, when the Supreme Court justices refused to hear complaints that the census wrongly excluded Mormon missionaries working overseas.

In the latest Utah case, a panel of three federal judges voted 2-1 in November to dismiss the state's lawsuit challenging the household estimation technique.

The lower court said it is reasonable to assume that households in the same neighborhood will be of similar size.

In its appeal to the Supreme Court, the state argued that the phrase "actual enumeration" means the Constitution's framers specifically ruled out guesswork.

"I'm glad the Supreme Court is going to give us an answer as to whether the Census Bureau can disregard the Constitution of the United States," Shurtleff said.

Utah has run out of money after paying an outside lawyer \$600,000 to handle the Census case, but Shurtleff's chief

will ask the Legislature for more money. Shurtleff said the estimation method disproportionately benefited North Congress after the head count.

The state also argued that the estimation method is similar to another statistical tool called "sampling." The Supreme Court split 5-4 to rule in 1999 that sampled census numbers cannot be

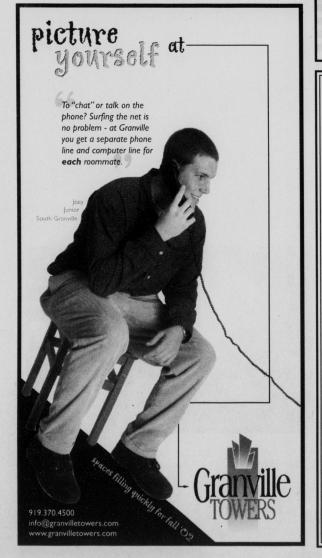
used to parcel out congressional seats.

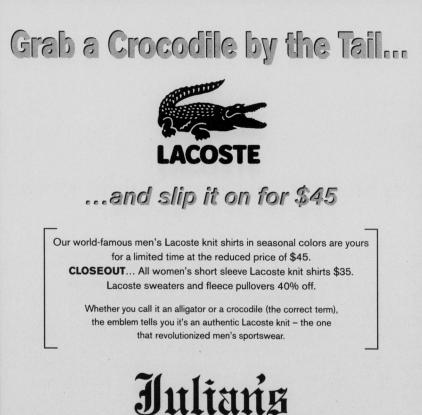
The 435 House seats are redistributed according to state population after each decennial census.

At the time, the Census Bureau and the Democratic Clinton administration said sampling would help make up for an expected undercount of minorities in the 2000 head count. Democrats generally support the practice while Republicans oppose it.

In the current case, the Republican Bush administration defended use of the household estimation technique, and urged the Supreme Court to uphold the wer court.
In the 2000 census, the estimation

accounted for less than half a percent of the total U.S. population. But that may have been enough to give North Carolina the extra seat.





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