

# Workers trained in new industries

## Changes call for new training programs

BY ALEXANDRA DODSON  
STAFF WRITER

Tobacco barns stand empty and mill wheels aren't turning, but N.C. workers are exploring options for job training in new industries.

As historical money-makers like tobacco and textiles struggle to survive, programs have been developed to help North Carolinians adapt to a changing economy and train for jobs in new fields.

"There is a ... general feeling around the state to convert manufacturing jobs in old industries to manufacturing jobs in new industries," said Rep. Paul Miller, D-Durham.

Miller said universities and community colleges are establishing programs to train workers and to give them skills for jobs at new biotech companies coming to North Carolina, such as Merck & Co. and Dell Inc.

He said N.C. Central University

seeks to educate workers for professional jobs by offering industry-related degrees, while N.C. State University is developing courses for other workers.

The organization largely responsible for the grants that have made programs like these is the Golden LEAF, Miller said.

Established in 1999 by a court order, the foundation received half of the tobacco settlement money awarded to the state. The money is used to benefit the economic and social conditions of North Carolina.

"Our mission is to help communities adjust to a changing tobacco economy," said Valeria Lee, president of the Golden LEAF.

She said the foundation has used grant money to set up programs at community colleges to educate workers, as well as training centers for individual corporations and organizations promoting state tourism.

The foundation gave start-up funding to BioNetwork, a statewide initiative that is part of the N.C. Community College System.

BioNetwork is a link throughout the system that works to train students for the biotechnical, pharmaceutical and life sciences industries.

Training programs through BioNetwork help workers realize they do not need a doctoral degree to be successful in technical industries, said Norman Smit, BioNetwork marketing and recruitment director. Instead, they learn to adapt the skills used in former jobs to new careers.

"BioNetwork is making their training more effective," he said.

When looking for employees, Smit said, biotechnical corporations often prefer workers with experience rather than those directly out of college. Veteran factory workers understand the shift system, as well as the demands of maintaining a plant that operates 24 hours a day.

One training program is a 128-hour course called BioWork, which

Smit said is inexpensive and accessible to students with jobs. Twenty community colleges across the state offer BioWork.

"It's up to the community college system to train people to meet job growth," he said. He added that the biotechnical industry in North Carolina is growing by 2000 jobs per year.

The community college system also is working with companies to train workers specifically for their needs. Smit said that if a company opens or expands in the state, community colleges will tailor programs for potential workers.

This, he said, fosters a strong relationship between colleges and companies that will allow the state to grow.

"It's extraordinary," Lee said. "We're talking of thousands of jobs. That's thousands of people that have benefited."

Contact the State & National Editor at [stntdesk@unc.edu](mailto:stntdesk@unc.edu).

# Bush travels to mend shaky U.S.-Canada ties

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

OTTAWA — President Bush tried on Tuesday to repair U.S.-Canada relations strained by years of bickering about trade and Iraq.

Although he stood by policies that have irritated Canadians, he did promise Prime Minister Paul Martin to work toward easing a U.S. ban on Canadian beef.

Even as thousands of Canadian protesters thronged the streets to protest his visit, Bush brushed aside suggestions that his decisions had damaged U.S.-Canada ties.

When asked in a joint news conference with Martin about polls that show Canadian opposition to

his policies, Bush said, "We just had a poll in our country when people decided that the foreign policy of the Bush administration ought to stay in place for four more years."

While he acknowledged no mistakes, Bush joked about his reception here.

"I want to thank the Canadian people who came out to wave, with all five fingers, for their hospitality," he said.

Indeed, Canadians for the most part lived up to their reputation for reserve as Bush made his way from the airport to downtown Ottawa. Most stood waving excitedly at Bush's enormous motorcade.

## RIDGE

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for Iraq and former New York City police commissioner; former Federal Emergency Management Agency Director Joe Allbaugh; Environmental Protection Agency Administrator Mike Leavitt; and White House homeland security adviser Fran Townsend. Others believed to be interested in the job, include Asa Hutchinson, undersecretary for border and transportation security in the Homeland Security Department.

Six other Bush Cabinet figures are leaving: Attorney General John Ashcroft, Commerce Secretary Donald Evans, Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman, Secretary of State Colin Powell and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham. Bush has chosen national security adviser Condoleezza Rice for the State Department, White House coun-

sel Alberto Gonzales for the Justice Department and Carlos Gutierrez for Commerce.

In October 2001, Ridge became the nation's first White House homeland security adviser, leading a massive rethinking of security within U.S. borders in the wake of the terror attacks of September 2001.

Congress subsequently passed legislation establishing the Homeland Security Department. Ridge became the department's first secretary in January 2003.

He has presided over six national "orange alerts" when the government boosted security out of concern that an attack may be coming. An attack in the United States never happened on his watch.

Ridge said he believes an assault by the al-Qaida terrorist network was averted last summer during the Fourth of July holiday period, when intelligence reports indicated terrorists might be targeting international flights to attack the United States.

## BANKING

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A corporation evolves many times before becoming successful, Lamy said, but finally provides a basis for new growth.

But some experts claim that the high percentage of mergers has a negative or neutral effect on the economy.

"While the headquarters of Wachovia and Bank of America being headquartered in Charlotte gives the city and the state visibility and power, that does not necessarily translate into new jobs," Walden said.

Some people relocate to the area to take a job, so employment is not always open to North

Carolinians.

But the banks often contribute to the city in other ways.

Julie Hill, director of corporate communications for the city of Charlotte, said the banking institutions have done more for the city than just provide jobs.

The industry also has helped out with social projects, including building a neighborhood center and helping to fund a new arena.

Hill added, "(The banks) have helped the city of Charlotte fund projects that otherwise would be hard to accomplish without private sector funding."

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## MURDER

FROM PAGE 1

not find Randy McKendall, but did find the casing from a 9 mm handgun — the same type of gun used in the incident Monday.

Officials would not comment as to whether the same weapon was used in both incidents.

Chatham County Sheriff's officers did seize a long rifle from the residence after the incident, according to reports.

The next day, Shennel McKendall obtained another warrant against her husband for violating the domestic violence order.

Randy McKendall was not served

the warrant until Nov. 22, three days after he was released from Lee County Hospital for attempting suicide by an overdose on Nov. 18.

He was released under a \$1,000 secured bond and was ordered to have no contact with his wife.

After Shennel McKendall reported later that day that her husband had violated the court order and contacted her, Randy McKendall was again arrested.

He was placed under a 48-hour lock-up with a suggested bond of \$5,000 on Nov. 23. The bond was increased to \$10,000 on Nov. 24.

Averett said that while Shennel McKendall took every legal option, some of the circumstances leading to the incident still bothered her.

She questioned how Randy McKendall was able to have a gun.

"The proverbial question is, 'Why don't they leave?'" she said. "They do, but it doesn't end domestic violence."

"Her only other option was to leave the state," she added.

Monday's incident is the first on-campus homicide in more than a decade. The last homicide occurred in 1991 and was also a domestic-related incident, Young said.

According to North Carolina v. Ralph Edwin Hamilton, Marva Hamilton was shot and killed by Ralph Hamilton as she walked to her car in the Bowles Lot at about 4 p.m. on July 2, 1991.

Ralph Hamilton was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life in prison.

The effects of Monday's incident were still evident Tuesday, as the employment office at the Hedrick Building remained closed.

In a prepared statement, Doris Friend, Shennel McKendall's supervisor, said she would be missed.

"There will be nothing that can replace Shennel's beautiful smile and her unfailingly positive outlook on life," Friend said. "Shennel enriched the lives of all of us who worked and laughed with her."

In Pittsboro, family and friends gathered at Shennel McKendall's house and were planning her memorial service, said Jesse McCrimmon, whose mother helped raise Shennel McKendall's father.

"We're pretty much shook up," he said. "It doesn't come easy."

McCrimmon said the well-being of Shennel McKendall's daughter, who is in high school, is the family's primary concern.

Contact the City Editor at [citydesk@unc.edu](mailto:citydesk@unc.edu).

## THE Daily Crossword

By Stanley B. Whitten

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### ACROSS

- 1 Lambaste
- 5 Festival
- 9 Layers
- 14 Focal point
- 15 Money of Iran
- 16 Japanese immigrant
- 17 Opposed to, in Dogpatch
- 18 Against
- 19 Church table
- 20 Opportunistic start
- 23 Not spoken
- 24 Part of SASE
- 25 CIA forerunner
- 28 Itemize
- 30 Feinstein or Wiest
- 33 Grads-to-be
- 36 Klutz's comment
- 39 Leon land
- 40 Woolgatherer's condition
- 44 Cove
- 45 Continental dough
- 46 Golfer's gadget
- 47 Sailor's jacket
- 49 Hebrew month
- 52 Starter's starter?
- 53 Tax agcy.
- 56 "Norma" and "Louise"
- 60 Deceptively
- 64 Missouri river
- 66 Fashion
- 67 Excessive anger

### DOWN

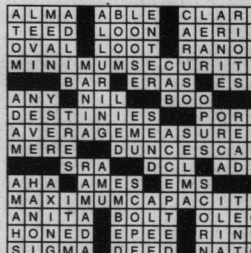
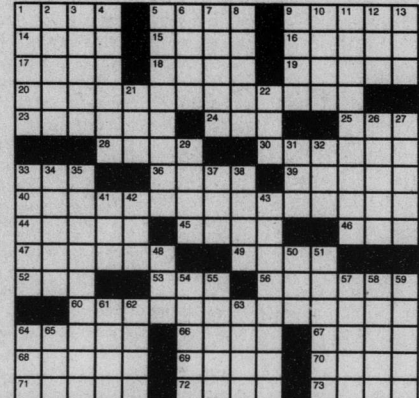
- 1 Military muddle
- 2 Start a surfing session
- 3 Mexican sayonara
- 4 telepathy
- 5 Family member
- 6 Isn't wrong?
- 7 Shaping machine
- 8 UFO passenger
- 9 Genoa farewell
- 10 Capital of Norway
- 11 Space station visitor
- 12 Afternoon social
- 13 Knight's title
- 21 Davis Love
- 22 Movie on a PC

### ACROSS

- 26 Nastily derogatory
- 27 Good judgment
- 29 Carryall
- 31 Small pc. of land
- 32 GI mail drop
- 33 English county
- 34 Russo and Descartes
- 35 Product pitch
- 37 Dien Bien
- 38 Bone-dry
- 41 3 on the dial
- 42 Israel or Jacob follower
- 43 Blimp and Sanders
- 48 Trucker's truck

### DOWN

- 50 Vert. bars on goods
- 51 PBS news anchor
- 54 Cuban dance
- 55 Korean capital
- 57 19th-century English writer
- 58 Patronage
- 59 Target shooting
- 61 Glare at
- 62 Require
- 63 Taking it easy
- 64 Sapporo sash
- 65 D.C. VIP



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