



Agent found in high levels

Low level danger

Carcinogens in beer

By DAVID SNYDER
Staff Writer

Despite recent reports by the Food and Drug Administration that most beers contain nitrosamines, which have caused cancer in animals, representatives of two state research centers say beer drinkers have nothing to worry about.

The FDA reports that at least 28 domestic and imported beers contain traces of nitrosamines, the exceptions being Coors and Guinness Stout. Independent laboratory tests report that some brands of beer contain up to 66 times the amount of nitrosamines the FDA allows.

The FDA tests turned up traces of nitrosamines in the following domestic beers: Schaefer, Budweiser, Miller, Colt 45, Schlitz, Lowenbrau, Colt 45-Silver, Stroh's, Olympia, Old English 800, Blitz-Weinhard, Carling Black Label, National Bohemian, Old Milwaukee, Pabst, Tuborg and Ballantine.

Imported beers that showed traces of the chemical in the FDA tests were: Kaiser Export, Paulaner Munchen, Stauder Special, Diekirch, Dortmunder Union Special, Teakston Old Peculiar, Gosser Golden Rock, Heineken, San Miguel, Molson beer and Molson ale.

Dr. Hans Falk, associate professor of the National Institute for Environmental Health Sciences in the

Research Triangle Park, said the levels of nitrosamines in beer are too insignificant to cause cancer in humans.

"While I don't rule out a danger associated with cancer-causing agents in beer, I can't say that the levels of nitrosamines in beer cause cancer in humans," Falk said. "At the present, experiments can't be carried out to assess risk at such small dosage levels."

Dr. Falk, a former National Cancer Institute researcher, did say that nitrosamines in beer have been known to result in liver damage in humans, and the coupling of nitrosamines with alcohol may pose an added danger.

Dr. David Kaufman, director of cancer research with the UNC department of pathology, said although some nitrosamines are known to cause injury in humans, and others are known to cause cancer in animals, they are often found in varying levels in meats, air, bodily fluids and cigarette smoke, not just in beer. Kaufman agreed that the cancer risk to humans posed by nitrosamines has not been determined.

A spokesman for Schlitz Brewery said the company has been trying to reduce nitrosamine levels in their beer for almost a year. He said the formation of the cancer-causing agent is apparently in the malt Schlitz buys from independent malters.



...in at least 28 beers

Russians say 'nyet' to tour; fear defections

MOSCOW (AP)—Beset by defections of some leading artists and athletes, the Soviet Union on Thursday canceled a month-long American tour planned by the Moscow State Symphony, set to begin next week.

Goskонтser, the Soviet concert-scheduling agency, gave no reason for the cancellation, but Western diplomats linked the move to the recent defections of three ballet dancers and two figure skaters.

The diplomats said the Soviets were not convinced that sufficient security would be provided for the orchestra during the tour, but would not say if security meant protection for the 170-member orchestra or assurances that musicians would not be granted asylum should they seek to defect.

Goskонтser officials said the tour could be rescheduled later. A senior musician with the orchestra said there had been doubt about the Sunday departure, but he was not sure the concert tour had been canceled.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Thomas Reston expressed regret over the cancellation, and he declined to speculate on the reason for it.

The American tour was to have opened Oct. 3 in Carnegie Hall in New York. The tour of about 20 U.S. cities in the East and South, including stops in Greensboro and at Wake Forest University, was to have ended Nov. 4, and thousands of tickets have been sold.

American preparations for the tour were being handled by Columbia Artists Management. Officials of the company had been in Moscow until Tuesday, diplomats said, trying to salvage the trip.

"Yesterday (Tuesday) we thought they had canceled but today we don't know," Ronald Wilford, Columbia Artists Management president, said Wednesday.

Diplomatic sources had expected some Soviet cultural programs abroad to be cut back after the recent defections to the West. But they said the overall Soviet commitment to cultural exchanges is likely to continue.

The latest series of defections began Aug. 22 when Bolshoi Ballet star Alexander Godonov sneaked away from security in New York. That touched off a U.S.-Soviet dispute at John F. Kennedy Airport, where Godonov's wife, Bolshoi ballerina Ludmila Vlasova, had boarded a plane bound for Moscow. The United States refused to let the jetliner leave until the ballerina convinced negotiators she wanted to return.

Three weeks later in Los Angeles, Bolshoi dancers Leonid and Valentina Kozlov sought asylum.

Proposed saccharin bill: more research, lift ban

By CHUCK BURNS
Staff Writer

While a Senate committee debates whether to extend the freeze of the ban on saccharin for another two years, some cancer researchers and several UNC doctors do not believe that saccharin causes cancer.

The bill was passed by the House in July. One of the bill's co-sponsors, U.S. Rep. James Broyhill of Lenoir, has said he believes the benefits of saccharin outweigh the risks.

The bill, would allow saccharin to be sold during the next two years while more tests and studies are done.

However, doctors and researchers say data proves that saccharin does not promote cancer in moderate amounts.

"Our conclusion based on our analysis of the present data is that saccharin, as used in

the United States today, does not pose a significant threat of cancer," said Terry Smith, a research associate for the American Council on Science and Health.

He added, "We, therefore, conclude that saccharin should not be prohibited."

UNC doctors agree that saccharin has not been shown to cause cancer.

"There is no evidence that saccharin has had an effect on cancer in diabetic patients," said Dr. John Gynne, an assistant professor of medicine who treats diabetic patients.

Dr. David Kaufman, a UNC associate professor of pathology whose specialty is chemical cancer-causing agents, said the bulk of data does not show an increase in cancer among diabetic patients using saccharin.

"I think a good measure of the study on saccharin is not quantitative," Kaufman said. "We know saccharin is a cancer-causing agent (in rats), but we don't know what the effect is in humans."

Both Gynne and Kaufman said the artificial sweetener is useful to diabetic patients when used moderately.

The usefulness of a cancer-causing agent like saccharin has prompted another bill in the House of Representatives. The bill, sponsored by U.S. Rep. Jim Martin of Davidson, would set up a panel to review the risks and benefits of a supposedly cancer-causing agent, and then pass recommendations to the federal Food and Drug Administration.

The panel would be made up of scientists,

researchers, economists, government officials, nutritionists and representatives of the food industry. The panel would take into account the possible risks of the cancer-causing agent, and how the substance would benefit people.

The panel could make one of four recommendations to the FDA, depending on how carcinogenic the substance is, and how much benefit is expected from the substance.

The panel could suggest that the FDA do nothing about the substance, place warning labels on foods containing the substance, place restrictions on the sale of the substance, or, finally, ban the substance.

The panel's decisions could be overruled by the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare.

Greeks

From page 1

denied, said fraternity head Reuben Blackwell.

Members of the three fraternities are dispersed across campus and in various local apartments, but unity between the members still exists, Blackwell said.

Omega Psi Phi, with 22 members, is not planning to recruit any new members this semester so that it can devote more time to community projects, Blackwell said. Kappa Alpha Psi expects seven to eight new members this semester.

Although many of the fraternity activities are time-consuming, most pledges feel that they are worth the time and effort. Bernard Alston, head of Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity said the time commitment involved in the pledge program is a weeding out device.

"The pledge program is set up so that it is a very time-consuming activity," Alston said. "A lot of people want to join a fraternity just for the prestige. It is the purpose of rush to get people interested in the fraternity itself, not just the organization. This aspect of the pledge program tends to pull people out that are interested in the fraternity and who are

willing to participate."

"The purpose of rush is to indoctrinate interested people in the organization," Davis said. "The pledge program features a lot of different aspects of fraternity life—social, service and personal. But one of the main purposes of rush is to get to know the personalities of each member so that there can be more unity within the fraternity."

Blackwell said fraternity brothers in Omega Psi Phi feel strong ties with each other.

"We go home with each other, meet the parents and family members, swap clothes and basically do things together such as eat, exercise and study," Blackwell said.

Another tradition of black fraternities that is designed to promote unity is the step show. The step show is performed primarily by undergraduates. The shows feature music and coordination, demonstrate pride for the fraternity and entertain the public.

"We try to provide something for everybody," Blackwell said.

Special activities to honor poet on 100th birthday

By THOMAS JESSIMAN
Staff Writer

A celebration honoring the late American poet Wallace Stevens on the 100th anniversary of his birth will be held on campus today and Saturday.

The celebration will include dramatic and musical presentations of Stevens' work, a talk by the late poet's daughter, and criticisms by a number of visiting critics.

Except for the musical and dramatic presentations all activities will be held in the Morehead Building banquet hall.

"Wallace Stevens is emerging as one of the major American poets of the 20th century," said George Lensing, assistant chairman of the English department and supervisor for the Stevens celebrations.

Holly Stevens, the poet's daughter, will speak at 2:30 p.m. today. She has edited an anthology of her father's poems, *The Palm at the End of the Mind*, and also *The Collected Letters of Wallace Stevens*.

Panelists Robert Buttel, Denis Donoghue, J. Hillis Miller and Robert Pack will discuss classroom approaches to Stevens' work from the teacher and student viewpoints at 10 a.m. today.

"Stevens and His Critics" will be the topic discussed by A. Walton Litz, a professor from Princeton University, at 3 p.m. today.

The Department of Music will present a concert of Stevens' poems set to music at 8 p.m. today in the Hill Hall Auditorium.

Much of the discussion of Stevens work will be criticism but the concert will provide an

opportunity to hear the actual poems of the author. Lensing said. Poems that will be put to music include Stevens' "The Snow Man" and "The Death of a Soldier."

Saturday's speakers are: Peter Brazeau on "Stevens: Biography and Poetry," 10 a.m.; Frank Doggett on "Stevens: The Making of Poems," 11 a.m.; Marie Barroff on "Sounds and Names in Wallace Stevens," 2:30 p.m.; and Helen Vedler, author of *Wallace Stevens' Longer Poems* will speak on "Style and Form in Shorter Poems of Wallace Stevens" at 3:30 p.m.

A student production of a one-act verse play by Stevens called "Three Travelers Watch a Sunrise" will be presented at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Lab Theatre in Graham Memorial Hall. The play is being directed by Dan Scuro, associate professor in the department of dramatic art.

An exhibit of poems, letters, books and other memorabilia of Wallace Stevens will be presented in Wilson Library through Oct. 15.

Born Oct. 2, 1879, Stevens already was established firmly in the law and business world before his first collection of poems *Harmonium* was released in 1915. *Harmonium* includes some of his more famous poems such as "Sunday Morning," "The Emperor of Ice Cream" and "Thirteen Ways of Looking at a Blackbird."

Stevens began writing poetry as an undergraduate at Harvard University, set it aside during his law school years in New York, and resumed around 1914 when he became established in the business world.

In 1934 Stevens was named vice-president of the Hartford Accident and Indemnity Co.

News In Brief

Soviet troop issue still open

UNITED NATIONS (AP)—The United States and the Soviet Union ended their latest round of talks Thursday about the 2,000 to 3,000 Soviet troops in Cuba, apparently without a settlement.

Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance and his Soviet negotiating partner, Foreign Minister Andrei A. Gromyko, both told reporters the discussions were "serious" and that no further talks were planned.

Gromyko said he would return to Moscow Friday. Vance said there was no plan to have Gromyko see President Carter in Washington, which had been considered a possibility if the Soviets showed flexibility.

Senate nixes congressional pay raise

WASHINGTON (AP)—The Senate Thursday approved an emergency appropriations bill that contains no pay raise for members of Congress but allows 5.5 percent hike for top-level federal employees.

The measure now goes to a House-Senate conference that will work out difference between the House and Senate versions of the bill. The House bill contains a \$3,200-a-year raise for members of Congress. The bill must be passed by Monday, the start of a new fiscal year, since it contains emergency funds to keep the government operating after the fiscal year starts.

House, Senate still differ on budget

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House finally approved a 1980 budget Thursday, but apparently not in time to resolve differences with the Senate over defense spending before the start of the new fiscal year next week.

By a 212-206 margin, the House passed a \$548.2 billion budget, only slightly leaner than the spending package that the lawmakers rejected last week. Republicans unanimously opposed the budget measure. The Senate version for the budget calls for \$546.3 billion in spending and differs from the House budget by calling for sharply higher outlays for defense and cuts in social programs.

Charges against Newton dropped

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—Black Panther leader Huey Newton will not be tried a third time on charges of murdering an Oakland prostitute in 1974, a judge ruled Thursday.

After two trials ended with hung juries, prosecutor Tom Orloff asked Alameda County Superior Court Judge Donald McCullum, "with regret," to dismiss the charges against Newton. In doing so, McCullum said: "This was trial by jury. This is all our system offers." McCullum declared a mistrial Tuesday after a jury deadlocked 11-1 for acquittal. Last March, another jury deadlocked 10-2 for acquittal in the case involving the shooting death of Kathleen Smith, 17.

Palestinian talks remain stalled

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt (AP)—Egyptian and Israeli delegates argued in public, debated in private, shared a laugh over a belly dancer and emerged deadlocked Thursday on the issue of Palestinian autonomy.

Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and Israeli delegation leader Joseph Burg clashed in the opening session Wednesday over Israeli land policy, but there was no indication of lingering acrimony.

The group agreed to hold another full session at the end of November in Israel, but three other sub-groups were scheduled to meet before then.

State job freeze affects half of vacancies

RALEIGH (AP)—The freeze on hiring in state government announced Thursday by Gov. Jim Hunt will immediately affect fewer than half the 5,400 state jobs currently vacant.

The freeze, one of several money-saving steps announced by Hunt, will prevent the hiring for new or vacant jobs. But the list of exceptions is long. Of the 5,400 jobs now empty, about 3,000 are exempt from the freeze and 2,420 will be covered by it, state officials said.

Legislative tunnel plans scrapped

RALEIGH (AP)—Plans to build a tunnel for lawmakers walking from the state Legislative Building to a new General Assembly office building going up across the street were buried Thursday.

The state Advisory Budget Commission, reversing its earlier decision, voted without dissent to drop plans for the controversial tunnel. The panel, composed mainly of legislators, made the decision after running into a storm of protest over its initial approval of the \$452,000 tunnel.

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