

# Search for waste sites may resume

By LEE ANN NECESSARY  
Staff Writer

When the U.S. Department of Energy postponed the search for a eastern nuclear waste repository last spring, N.C. officials were assured that the search was over for an "indefinite amount of time."

But in Congressional hearings last week, U.S. Secretary of Energy John Herrington said he would push to continue the search unless Congress amends the law that requires its establishment, said Don Follmer, director of public affairs for the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

Two of the 12 sites being considered are located in the state.

The Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982 established a federal program to search for possible sites for two nuclear waste repositories. The Energy Department has narrowed the possibilities for the western site to areas in Texas, Nevada and Washington, Follmer said.

The department lowered its 1982 projection of spent nuclear fuel and amended its original plan due to construction of fewer nuclear plants and longer usage of fuel, said Evan Brunson, coordinator of the Department of Natural Resources Crystal-line Repository Project. The new plan postpones the search for the eastern site to 1995 with a completion date of 2025, Brunson said.

If Congress does not approve the amendment to the department's plan or appropriate the funds for its implementation, the department may have to return to its original plan and resume the search for a second waste repository, Brunson said.

"We in the governor's office have been assured the search is over, and North Carolina is out of the picture," said Tim Pittman, press secretary for Gov. Jim Martin.

Before the last search was canceled, Martin instructed the Department of Natural Resources to outline evidence proving why the state was not a good site, Pittman said.

"From our perspective, the geo-

logical evidence prepared proves that we're not a suitable state because of our unsuitable rock formations," he said.

The two possible N.C. sites included the Elk River area, which encompasses Buncombe, Haywood and Madison counties, and the Roseville-Pluton area, which includes Wake, Johnston and Franklin counties. The fissured rock formations and dense population of these areas were found to be unsuitable for a high-level nuclear waste repository site, Follmer said.

"We feel like there is little to no chance that there will ever be a high-level nuclear waste repository east of the Mississippi," he said.

# Gephardt announces bid for presidency

By MICHAEL A. KOLB  
Staff Writer

Rep. Richard Gephardt of Missouri announced his bid for the presidency Monday. He is the first major Democrat to officially announce for president.

Gephardt, a moderate Democrat, said his campaign would center on trade.

Democratic Gov. Mario Cuomo of New York ended months of speculation last Thursday night by announcing that he would not seek the Democratic nomination for the presidency.

Cuomo made the announcement during a monthly call-in radio show on WCBS-New York City.

"In my opinion, the Democratic Party offers a number of candidates who can prove themselves capable of leading this nation toward a more sane, a more progressive and a more humane future," Cuomo said during the radio show. "I will not add my name to that number."

Paul Kirk, the chairman of the Democratic National Committee, said in a prepared statement that the Cuomo announcement "changes the dynamics of the race significantly."

While Cuomo has chosen not to run, there will not be a shortage of Democratic presidential hopefuls, said Julie Anbender, deputy director of news and information for the Democratic National Committee.

Included among the list of near certain are former Gov. Bruce Babbitt of Arizona, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware and the front-runner, former Sen. Gary Hart of Colorado, Anbender said.

The list of possible candidates also includes Gov. Michael Dukakis of Massachusetts, civil rights activist Rev. Jesse Jackson, former Gov. Charles Robb of Virginia and Sen. Sam Nunn of Georgia, Anbender said.

Of these possible candidates, Nunn, Robb and Jackson would be

strongest in the South, said UNC political science professor Thad Beyle.

"Since many of the southern primaries occur early and close together, the region is important in the 1988 primaries, Beyle said.

"The southern primary was created so the South would be counted in the north and northeast," Beyle said. "I would think they (the Democrats) have a good opportunity to win the presidency in 1988 if for no other reason than the arrogance of foreign policy. There's a malaise out there."

The South has been a Democratic stronghold since the Civil War, said Ann Gross, deputy press secretary for the Republican National Committee.

"The South is changing, though. There is a general shift to the Republicans," Gross said.

Cuomo was considered to be in second place among the Democrats,

said Merle Black, UNC associate professor of political science.

"He would have been weak in the South," said Black. "He probably could not have won either the nomination or the general election."

Republican White House hopefuls include Vice President George Bush, Sen. Robert Dole of Kansas, Gov. Thomas Kean of New Jersey, Rep. Jack Kemp of New York, evangelist Pat Robertson, former Secretary of State Alexander Haig and former Sen. Howard Baker of Tennessee, Gross said.

N.C. Sen. Jesse Helms' name is also popping up as a possible candidate, Beyle said. Helms, a Republican, could benefit from the southern primary and his name recognition in the South, Beyle said.

"He would energize a certain side of the electorate," said Beyle.

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

# Lebanese man denounces U.S. presence in homeland

From Associated Press reports

PARIS — A Lebanese man accused in the killings of American and Israeli diplomats said at the opening of his trial Monday that he was an Arab fighter and denounced "Yankee executioners" in his homeland.

Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, 35, spoke for about 10 minutes in what appeared to be a rehearsed monologue when he was interrupted by Judge Maurice Colomb, who said Abdallah was beginning to repeat himself.

## Court to rule on death penalty

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court said Monday it will decide whether the death penalty is a valid punishment for convicted murderers who com-

## News in Brief

mited their crimes before they were 18 years old.

### Witness identifies Nazi guard

JERUSALEM — A survivor quivering with emotion testified Monday that John Demjanjuk was the Nazi guard "Ivan the Terrible" who clubbed prisoners, gouged out their eyes and turned on the gas at the Treblinka death camp.

"This is the man, the man sitting over there," Pinchas Epstein shouted in the courtroom, pointing at the retired Cleveland auto worker and pounding repeatedly on the witness stand.

# Conservatives seek to control state GOP

By LAURIE DUNCAN  
Staff Writer

As the 1988 presidential election grows closer, control of the N.C. Republican Party has become increasingly important to Sen. Jesse Helms, R-N.C., and his conservative following.

Most officials agree that Helms and his political action committee, the National Congressional Club, intend to take control of the party from moderate Republicans.

Conservative and moderate Republicans are squabbling over choices for the state GOP chairman, and the official decision won't be made until the party's convention in May.

"It's not an ideological contest, it's a power struggle for control," said Paul Shumaker, campaign director for the Republican Party.

But Carter Wrenn, executive director of Helms' Congressional Club, said several issues showed ideological differences between the two wings.

"Moderates in the Republican party don't want to portray a difference in philosophy," Wrenn said Monday.

Last weekend, Helms endorsed the Rev. Barry McCarty as the conservative candidate for GOP party chairman, Jack Hawke, recommended by Gov. Jim Martin, was named interim chairman last month, replacing Bob Bradshaw who left the post in January.

Some officials said that Helms is using the race for Republican party chairman to measure his support within the party. Since state parties choose delegates, who decide upon presidential candidates for the upcoming elections, to their national convention, having a conservative

chairman for the state party could further Helms' chances of influencing the 1988 presidential elections, Shumaker said.

"This might be (the Congressional Club's) long-term goal," Shumaker said. "But they have to get by the (state) convention first."

Wrenn said Helms' interest in the chairman's race was an attempt to strengthen conservative values in the party.

Thad Beyle, political science professor at UNC, said the GOP chairman's race should be interesting.

"We have seen in the Funderburk-Broyhill primary the relative strength of both factions in the party," he said. In the May 1986 primary for the U.S. Senate race, former Sen. Jim Broyhill, considered a moderate Republican, received 67 percent of the vote, and the Congressional Club's candidate, David Funderburk, won 30 percent of the vote.

"The question is where (the Congressional Club) draws the line in this attack," he said. "They're going to get all over everything they can. The more they do, the more potential they'll have of hurting Gov. Martin."

Martin, who is wary of the threat Helms represents, has been campaigning since last summer to build Republican party strength, Beyle said.

Wrenn said the Congressional Club's campaign for McCarty would use heavy direct mailing and person-to-person discussions with Republican party delegates.

Shumaker said the campaign would also include a phone bank for contacting delegates to ask them to hear campaign speeches at precinct meetings.

# Federal grant speeds completion of I-40

By CORNELIA LEE  
Staff Writer

A \$30 million federal grant will help North Carolina complete construction of Interstate 40 six months to one year ahead of schedule, and Chapel Hill is preparing for the impact of more traffic.

"The speed up (of completion) will

not affect the town at all, except that the anticipated effects of increased congestion and growth will occur sooner," said assistant town manager Sona Lowenthal.

The town has a plan to include a low density buffer to keep growth and congestion within specific limits. This plan recognizes the I-40 interchanges as special areas, Lowenthal said.

Two interchanges will open near Chapel Hill. The first to open will be at U.S. 15-501 in July 1987, scheduled to accommodate the influx of athletes and visitors to the U.S. Olympic Festival this summer. The other interchange will be at N.C. 86.

The new highway might drastically shorten the drive from Chapel Hill to the Research Triangle Park

and Raleigh, or it might be heavily congested the day it opens, said David Bunk, planner for the Chapel Hill transportation department.

The 15-501 interchange area will become heavily congested, as commuters from both Chapel Hill and Durham converge on the new entrance, Bunk said. Commuters to Research Triangle Park might find that traveling on the recently widened N.C. 54 is the quickest route into the Park, he said.

Traffic through Chapel Hill is expected to increase as more people move into this area, lured by the shorter drive to Research Triangle Park, Lowenthal said.

But this influx is not expected to cause an immediate surge in development, because there are already many vacancies in the new multi-

family buildings in the area, said Arthur Jackson, long range planner of the Chapel Hill Planning Department.

These vacancies will be filled before Chapel Hill permits a push for new construction, Jackson said. When needed, additional development will occur on the perimeters of the town, but there is little room for development inside town limits, he said.

The existing neighborhoods are expected to remain intact, with a density of two to four units per acre, and some developments reaching four to eight units per acre, he said.

Chapel Hill will rezone downtown areas this year to create a mixture of residential, office and retail development, Lowenthal said. By granting the mixed-use zoning only to tracts of 20 acres or more, Chapel Hill hopes to encourage coordinated development, she said.

## Letter from page 1

goal in writing the letter was to defund the CGLA, although alternatives exist, such as allowing students to choose which groups they fund.

The group's opposition to funding the CGLA can be compared to other students' calls for UNC to divest from South Africa, Spargo said. "We want to divest the CGLA," he said.

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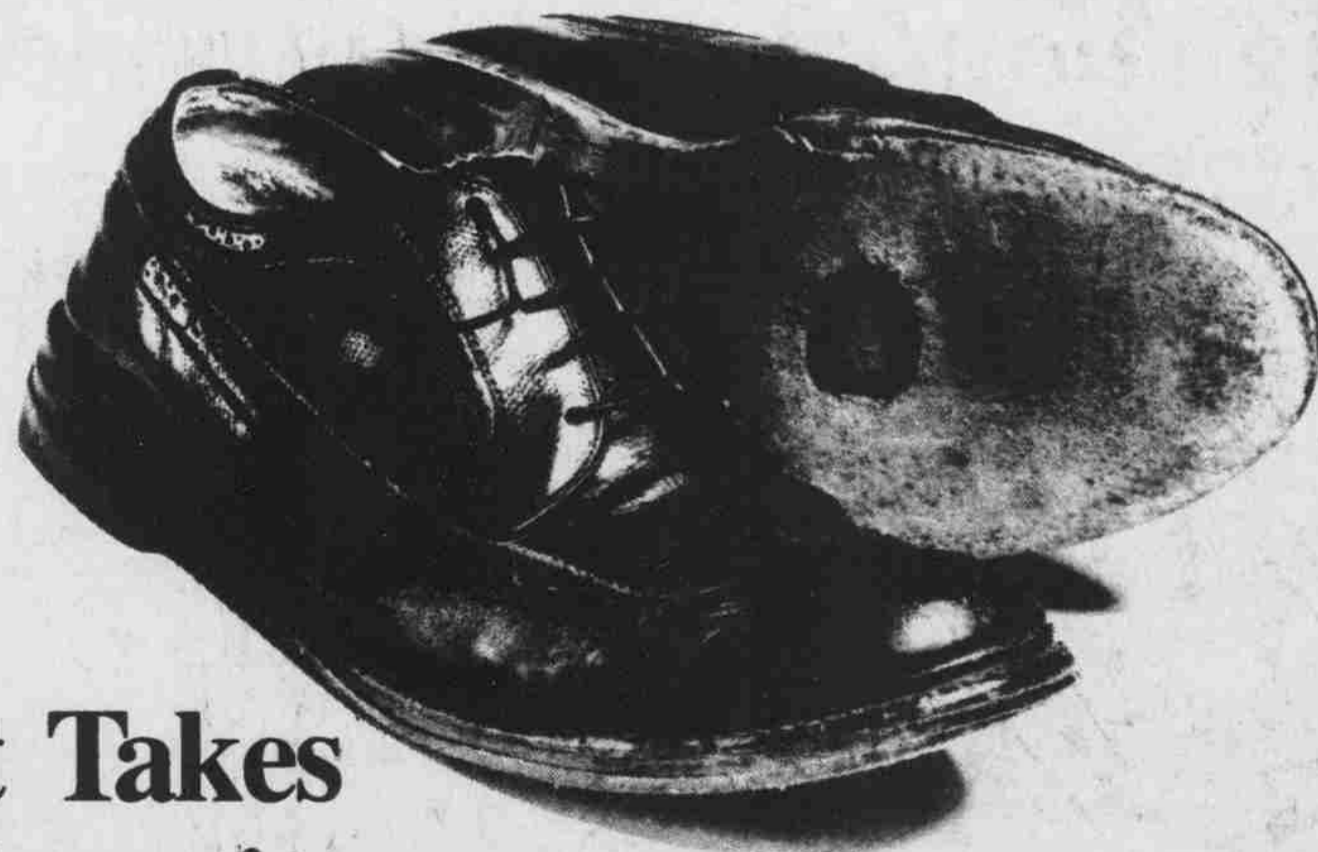
**Time:** Wednesday, February 25 @ 11:00am

**Place:** Study Abroad Reading Room (Basement of Caldwell)

**Margaret Stone**, Assistant Director, will be on campus to meet with interested students. For further information, contact the Study Abroad Reading Room @ 962-7001

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