

Farmers to get assistance

By MATT BIVENS
Staff Writer

The Rural Economic Development Center, a non-profit corporation designed to ease the plight of displaced farmers in North Carolina, held an organizational meeting earlier this week, said William Friday, chairman of the center's board of directors.

The center, which was created by Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan as the primary recommendation of the N.C. Jobs Commission, is awaiting the N.C. General Assembly's approval on a bill that would provide \$2 million in state funds, Friday said.

The center will provide new jobs and training for farmers in search

of work. It will work through county and local governments, he said.

"We're not an operational group," he said. "We just want to stimulate growth."

Since about 20,000 N.C. farmers have lost their jobs in the past five years, it is obvious something needs to be done, Friday said.

The center, chartered as a corporation in January 1987, receives funding from private foundations as well as the state, said Billy Ray Hall, executive of the corporation.

RJ Reynolds Tobacco contributed \$50,000 and the Z. Smith Reynolds Corporation contributed \$7,500, Hall said.

"We weren't even thought about

a year ago, and now we're in place," he said. "That's an accomplishment."

The center provides a meeting place for people concerned with aiding the farmers, allowing them to pool their resources and avoid duplication of effort, Hall said.

"Certainly you want to have them (the board members) all working together to promote rural development," he said.

The 41-member board, which includes UNC-system President C.D. Spangler, will meet again sometime in late May, Hall said. During the meeting members will discuss how best to promote their goals and adopt an "action agenda," Hall said.



Lt. Gov. Bob Jordan

Satellite, unmanned rocket destroyed by radio signal

From Associated Press reports

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — An Atlas-Centaur rocket pitched out of control and was destroyed by a radio signal Thursday about 60 seconds after it lifted off with an \$83 million military communications satellite.

The unmanned rocket lifted off in a rainstorm and there is a possibility that it was hit by lightning. Observers saw what they thought was a lightning flash near the vehicle shortly after it blasted off.

PTL shakeup continues

FORT MILL, S.C. — The PTL ministry will continue to pay evangelist Jim Bakker, who resigned after admitting being blackmailed in a sex scandal, because it "would not be Christian" to do otherwise, Jerry Falwell said Thursday.

And Falwell, who became chairman of the board of the 500,000-member ministry after Bakker resigned, said a board committee will independently audit PTL's finances and will see if any criminal acts were involved in the blackmail scheme alleged by Bakker.

Bakker resigned as chairman a week ago, saying it was the only way to stop a "diabolical plot" by another evangelist to seize his \$172 million empire.

News in Brief

Man accused of torture

PHILADELPHIA — A man accused of keeping half-naked women chained in his secret cellar of horrors for torture, rape and killing, and of stockpiling human limbs in a freezer, was ordered held without bond Thursday.

Gary Heidnik, a 43-year-old licensed practical nurse, was arrested after police went to the house and found three young women, partially naked, chained in the basement. They also found 24 pounds of human limbs in a freezer and other body parts in the kitchen, police said.

By day's end, police said they found the body of a woman in remote woods in southern New Jersey and arrested a second suspect, Cyril Brown, a sometime occupant of the house.

The survivors, aged 18 to 24, spoke of torture and rape, of a skeletal head in a cooking pot and a human rib cage in an oven, of two women who died in captivity, one electrocuted in a watery pit, one killed in a fall.

When he was arrested, Heidnik had \$1,900 in his pockets. Police found a financial statement inside his house indicating he had a \$500,000 stock account.

Tax increase proposed to fund N.C. schools

By MITRA LOTFI
Staff Writer

North Carolina's sales tax may be raised by one percentage point, from 3 percent to 4 percent, to help pay for nearly \$2 billion in statewide school construction and renovations.

Rep. William T. Watkins, D-Oxford, proposed the increase from 3 cents to 4 cents per dollar to the

BSM from page 1

"I feel the congress should have made an exception not only because of the amount of money they usually request," Bailey said. "Now it looks like the organizations that usually get money from the general reserve are going to have to suffer."

Rob Friedman, speaker of the congress, said that although the BSM deserves funding, the group doesn't deserve an extension.

"It's a shame something like this has to happen to the BSM, since they represent so many people on this campus and serve such a good purpose to the University," Friedman said. "But we can't get away with giving them an extension without giving the other organizations that didn't turn in their forms on time an extension also."

The other organizations that missed the deadline to turn in budget requests included the High Kicking Heels, the Media Board, the Undergraduate Art Association and Victory Village Day Care.

The congress plans to work with the BSM as much as possible, Friedman said. But congress members cannot give the BSM any money until next fall since they won't know exactly how much money will be left in the reserve until then, he said.

N.C. House of Representatives Tuesday.

Watkins, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, said his plan would raise the necessary funds more cheaply than Republican Gov. Jim Martin's plan for a \$1.5 billion bond issue.

"With the bond issue, you have to pay interest," Watkins said. "This will save \$1.1 billion in interest."

Watkins' bill, which has been referred to the House Finance Committee, would raise the state sales tax by 1 cent from July 1 of this year through July 1, 1991. At that time, the tax would return to 3 cents per dollar unless the bill was extended by a two-thirds vote in the N.C. General Assembly.

Watkins said the money is needed to help implement the Basic Education Plan that was approved in 1985.

The plan calls for 11,000 new teachers to be hired by the state by 1992. The individual counties are responsible for providing the facilities to house these teachers.

Watkins said many counties are too poor to finance the needed construction or renovations on their own. The money from the sales tax would go into a fund and be distributed to counties on a per capita basis, he said.

"Every penny (would have) to be used for a new facility, repairing an old facility or (to buy) land on which to put a new facility," Watkins said.

Any school board that could certify that it doesn't need money for new construction or repairs could use the money to pay off previous debts, he said.

For some counties, the tax increase may be the only hope for their schools, Watkins said.

Pasquotank County, for example,

has had one school destroyed by fire and three others condemned, he said.

"They are not able to support a bond issue to build their schools," Watkins said.

Of 100 N.C. counties, 97 impose an additional 2 cents per dollar tax on top of the state sales tax, making the total tax 5 cents for most N.C. consumers. Three counties, Brunswick, Clay and Wilson, will increase their state tax addition from 1.5 cents to 2 cents on April 1. Thus, Watkins' bill would boost the total sales tax to 6 cents in all N.C. counties.

Martin's bond issue plan, announced last fall, would raise between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion

for loans to local governments as needed, Tim Pittman, the governor's press secretary, said.

Dr. James Wilde, a UNC associate professor of economics, said the main difference between the two plans is the speed with which the money could be made available to the counties.

If North Carolina's schools are in critical need of help, the bond plan would provide immediate funds. If the state wants a gradual process, the sales tax increase could be adopted, he said.

The bond plan would still require a tax increase or a cut back in expenditures, Wilde said.

Republican may seek Lt. Gov. nomination

By MEG CRADDOCK
Staff Writer

State Rep. William Boyd, R-Randolph, has created a committee to explore the possibilities of seeking the party nomination for lieutenant governor of North Carolina.

Boyd said he is seriously considering running for the nomination, but his final decision will depend on the findings of the exploratory committee.

Boyd has not outlined a final campaign platform, but he said it would be a conservative platform. He said he would like to see more control at the local level.

Boyd is seen as being a unifying force in the Republican Party, said N.C. House of Representatives minority leader Betsy Cochrane, R-Davie. He has connections with both the very conservative members and also the more moderate members, she said.

"I think he's reasonable, and that's the difference," she said.

Boyd said the possibility of having to work with a Democratic governor does not bother him, but he is assuming Gov. Jim Martin will be re-elected.

"I think I'd be able to work fine with a Democratic governor if that

should happen, although it would certainly be more difficult," he said.

It is hard to predict how well Boyd will work with Democrats if he becomes lieutenant governor, said Speaker of the House Liston Ramsey, D-Madison. Boyd would be involved primarily with the N.C. Senate, he said.

Boyd, though well-known among Republican Party members, needs to gain recognition among voters, he said.

To increase his name recognition, Boyd said he is traveling around the state to talk to voters.

Boyd, who is from Asheboro, sees

his central location in the state as a campaign advantage.

"I'm not seen as being just for the coast or just for the mountains," he said.

John Carrington, who is also considering seeking the Republican nomination for lieutenant governor, is not a problem right now, Boyd said. Carrington, the Republican nominee for lieutenant governor in 1984, has not formally stated his intentions to run.

"I would like for John to be supporting me, but if he runs, we'll see him in the primary," Boyd said.

Parking permit registration begins April 1

By LAURA PEARLMAN
Staff Writer

If you plan an all-night vigil March 31 so you'll be first in line to get a 1987-88 student parking permit when pre-registration starts April 1, the April fool's joke will be on you.

Parking stickers are not issued on a first-come, first-serve basis, Dana Work of the Office of Traffic and Motor Vehicle Registration said Thursday. And students will not benefit by standing outside the

basement of the Campus Y Building at 6 a.m. on the morning of April 1, she said.

"We hold stickers for the graduate students, then the seniors, juniors and so on," Work said. "Rising sophomores should not be discouraged, though, because contrary to popular belief, they are eligible for permits."

"If rising sophomores register, however, and they live on North Campus, they may get bumped just

because there is so little parking up there. The best thing to do is just turn in the form and guard that receipt with your life," Work said.

Students who come by during the pre-registration period between April 1 and May 8 may be surprised at the increase in next year's permit costs.

Many factors contributed to the increase in parking permit costs for the 1987-88 year, Work said. "In past years, the prices haven't

gone up significantly, and that had to catch up with us sooner or later," Work said. "We are paying for several things this year that the current prices won't cover, including the resurfacing of the P lot and the contract the University has with the city of Chapel Hill for the bus service."

For the upcoming academic year, A, I, S3, and S5 permits will cost \$114.75. N5, N6, J, K, L, and M, permits will cost \$103.50, and F and FR permits will cost \$81.

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Quick. What do George Balanchine and Margaret Mead have in common? Good question, right? Yesterday lunchtime got into a long conversation about it with a guy taking a course there at NU called ethnography of performance. Talked for over an hour. Sure beats usual summer drive about tan lines. Mine's good by the way.



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