Farmers to get assistance

By MATT BIVENS

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

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,"

has had one school destroyed by fire

and three others condemned, he said.

bond issue to build their schools,"

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, Bruns-

wick, 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

Martin's bond issue plan,

announced last fall, would raise

between \$1.5 billion and \$2 billion

State Rep. William Boyd, R-

Randolph, has created a committee

to explore the possibilities of seeking

the party nomination for lieutenant

ering running for the nomination,

but his final decision will depend on

the findings of the exploratory

Boyd said he is seriously consid-

governor of North Carolina.

committee.

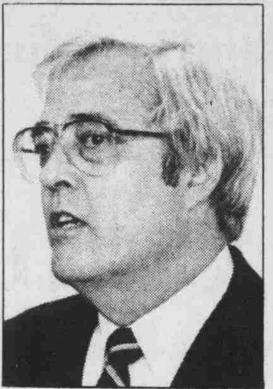
to 6 cents in all N.C. counties.

By MEG CRADDOCK

Watkins said.

"They are not able to support a

Of 100 N.C. counties, 97 impose



for loans to local governments as

needed, Tim Pittman, the governor's

professor of economics, said the

main difference between the two

plans is the speed with which the

money could be made available to

critical need of help, the bond plan

would provide immediate funds. If

the state wants a gradual process,

the sales tax increase could be

a tax increase or a cut back in

The bond plan would still require

If North Carolina's schools are in

Dr. James Wilde, a UNC associate

Tax increase proposed to fund N.C. schools

By MITRA LOTFI

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 construction

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 BSM's size, but also 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 Vic-

tory 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

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

"With the bond issue, you have to pay interest," Watkins said. "This

Watkins' bill, which has been referred to the House Finance Committee, would raise the state sales tax by I cent from July I 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

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

Any school board that could certify that it doesn't need money for

For some counties, the tax increase may be the only hope for

"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 there. The best thing to do is just turn in the form and guard that

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

increase in parking permit costs for the 1987-88 year, Work said.

destroyed by radio signal **News in Brief**

Satellite, unmanned rocket

From Associated Press reports

ications satellite.

blasted off.

by Bakker.

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 commun-

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

PTL shakeup continues

PTL ministry will continue to pay

evangelist Jim Bakker, who

resigned after admitting being

blackmailed in a sex scandal,

because it "would not be Chris-

tian" to do otherwise, Jerry

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

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.

And Falwell, who became

Falwell said Thursday.

FORT MILL, S.C. — The

The unmanned rocket lifted off

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.

press secretary, said.

the counties.

adopted, he said.

expenditures, Wilde said.

Tuesday.

will save \$1.1 billion in interest."

N.C. General Assembly.

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

new construction or repairs could use the money to pay off previous debts, he said.

their schools, Watkins said.

Pasquotank County, for example,

Boyd has not outlined a final campaign platform, but he said it would be a conservative platform. re-elected He said he would like to see more

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,

"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

"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 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 basement of the Campus Y Building because there is so little parking up

Republican may seek Lt. Gov. nomination

control at the local level.

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 I, the April fool's joke will be

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 at 6 a.m. on the morning of April I, she said.

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

receipt with your life," Work said.

Many factors contributed to the

"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

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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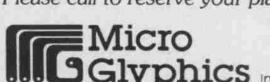
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Good question, right?

Good question, right?

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