

Center gets grant for literacy program

By AMY WINSLOW
Staff Writer

In 1985, 40 percent of 13-year-old Americans could not read or write well enough to understand textbooks and participate in their classes, said Judy Davidson, director of the UNC Center for Early Adolescence's Project on Adolescent Literacy.

But a \$62,400 grant from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation of Winston-Salem will help the center combat the nationwide problem of adolescent illiteracy. The grant will help fund a program called "Middle Grades Assessment of Literacy," she said.

"Middle graders are very crucial because if they don't learn to read and write at (their grade levels), there's no other place for them to pick it up," Davidson said.

Illiteracy is a huge problem among adults, said Kathryn Baker Smith, director of planning for the N.C. Department of Community Colleges.

One of every four North Carolinian adults is functionally illiterate, and the state isn't doing enough to combat this human tragedy, said Bob L. Anderson, director of Adult Continuing Education for the N.C. Department of Community Colleges.

Functionally illiterate adults are older than 25 and have less than nine years of education, according to the 1980 Census definition of illiteracy.

Many illiterate adults are too ashamed to enroll in literacy courses offered by the community college system, Anderson said.

"Adults are a hard group to motivate to get into the classroom," he said.

One approach to fighting adult illiteracy is to teach younger students the essentials of reading and writing, Anderson said.

UNC's adolescent illiteracy project began in 1985 with an assessment of successful programs in other states, Davidson said.

The project will target schools and community-based organizations, such as libraries, churches and recreation centers, she said. Students need access to reading materials so they will be encouraged to read more, Davidson said.

Efforts must be made to help students maintain a connection to school and learn when they're away from school, Davidson said.

"After-school and summer literacy programs can have a strong impact on students," she said.

Between the fifth and eighth grades is the most crucial time for students to become proficient readers, yet many adolescents do not develop adequate reading skills, Davidson said.

Many teachers feel it's inappropriate to emphasize reading in the fifth grade, while others think they are teaching reading comprehension when they really aren't, she said.

Today educators are focusing on the high school, said Nancy Farmer, special assistant for middle grades in the N.C. Department of Public Instruction. There is a great lack of attention given to early adolescents.

"Instead of a bridge between the elementary and secondary levels, there's a hole or a ditch that kids fall into," Farmer said.

Consumer Price Index shows record '87 inflation increase

From Associated Press reports

WASHINGTON — Consumer inflation rose 4.4 percent in 1987, but the rise in December was just 0.1 percent, the government said Wednesday.

The 1987 increase in the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index, the steepest pace in six years, was four times 1986's tiny 1.1 percent rise. It compared with a 3.8 percent increase in 1985 and a 4 percent rise in 1984.

Reagan pushes for contra aid

WASHINGTON — President Reagan said Wednesday that Congress will commit "one of America's most tragic mistakes" if it refuses to give more money to Nicaraguan rebels.

House Speaker Jim Wright, D-Texas, accused Reagan of pursuing a military victory and the overthrow of the Sandinista regime.

There was a sharpening of rhetoric on both sides as supporters and opponents of rebel aid tried to marshal forces for a showdown vote next month that will sustain the contra force or effectively put it out of business.

The White House angrily rebutted charges that the administration was trying to sabotage the peace process in Central America.

"The Democrats... they want a surrender," said presidential spokesman Marlin Fitzwater.

News in Brief

"They think surrender is the best way to achieve peace. We disagree."

Israel concerned over violence
JERUSALEM — Israel said Wednesday it might use curfews for the first time to quell riots in Arab east Jerusalem, where a police jeep stoned by children ran down a protester and crashed, injuring two officers.

Increasing numbers of Jerusalem's Arabs have been caught up in the nationalist fervor generated by six weeks of violence in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Eight survive plane crash
DURANGO, Colo. — Survivors of a commuter airline crash that killed nine people managed a "superhuman feat" by walking 1½ miles through darkness, tangled brush and waist-deep snow, authorities said Wednesday.

The only survivor with boots, 39-year-old Peter Schauer of Booneville, Mo., made his way to a farmhouse and summoned help after Tuesday night's Continental Express crash. Six others also made their way out, while an eighth survivor was rescued from the crash site.

Soviet experts optimistic about INF treaty

By HELLE NIELSEN
Staff Writer

Although the Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces treaty does not signify the end of the Cold War, it could lead to reductions in conventional weapons, four Soviet experts told about 45 people at a panel discussion in the Student Union Wednesday.

The discussion, "Gorbachev and the INF treaty: End of the Cold War?" was sponsored by UNC-Chapel Hill's Peace, War and Defense Curriculum.

"It is a good treaty; it should be passed without killer amendments," said Ole Holsti, professor of political science at Duke University. "But it is not a turning point in history."

The treaty is important because an agreement on ground inspections marks a breakthrough in verification procedures, Holsti said, and because the treaty may lead to reductions in other categories of weapons.

The treaty, signed in December at the U.S.-Soviet summit, calls for the elimination of all intermediate-range nuclear weapons based in Europe over a three-year period.

The treaty is not historic because the weapons being eliminated represent only about 4 percent of the nuclear forces of the two countries,

and a nuclear free world still seems unlikely, Holsti said.

"The INF treaty could be the first step toward a series of disarmament steps," said Vladimir Treml, an economics professor at Duke University. "It could ultimately lead to reductions in conventional weapons."

The treaty may have opened a door to U.S.-Soviet negotiations on President Ronald Reagan's missile-based defense system, known as "Star Wars," said James Thompson, professor of political science at UNC-Greensboro.

"The negotiations could move downward toward mutual reductions in conventional weapons and upward into space," Thompson said.

If the U.S. Senate rejects the INF treaty, our relations with European allies will suffer, said Gerhard Weinberg, Kenan professor of history at UNC-CH. He warned that Senate ratification may not be easy.

The professors agreed that both the United States and the Soviet Union would benefit from the treaty, but they disagreed over Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reasons for seeking the treaty.

Gorbachev pushed for the treaty to pave the way for implementing his proposed economic reforms, Treml said.

"The intensity with which Gorbachev wants negotiations and reductions convinces us of the seriousness of reforms in the Soviet Union," he said.

A Soviet economic crisis is prompting Gorbachev to seek reductions in military spending, Treml said. The Soviet Union spends an estimated 16

percent of its gross national product on the military, he said.

The immense military also hurts the Soviet economy by employing people who would otherwise contribute to the civilian economy, Treml said. As a result, the Soviet labor force has zero net growth, he said.

Saving resources and manpower would also motivate the Soviets to move toward reductions in conventional weapons, he said.

But Weinberg said economic troubles did not motivate the Soviets to support the INF treaty.

Gorbachev pushed for the INF

treaty after realizing that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) would not allow the Soviet Union to have an advantage in intermediate-range arsenals deployed in Europe, Weinberg said.

With the INF treaty, Gorbachev saw an opportunity to increase tensions within the NATO alliance, which includes the United States and most Western European nations, Holsti said.

Gorbachev also was eager to have the treaty because it would consolidate his position within the Soviet Union, Holsti said.

Bush, Hart front-runners in Gallup poll

By CARRIE DOVE
Staff Writer

More than half of Southern Republicans support Vice President George Bush, and former Colorado Sen. Gary Hart leads the Democratic presidential candidates in the South, according to a Gallup poll released Tuesday.

"We are starting to get those votes that were just leaning toward Bush before," said Rob Schuler, North Carolina political director for Bush's campaign.

Bush drew an approval rating of 54 percent from Republicans surveyed, followed by Sen. Bob Dole, R-Kan., who garnered 25 percent.

"(The Dole campaign) is not discouraged because the Iowa caucuses are going to change the entire race," said Catherine Rudolph, Dole's communications director in the South.

The Rev. Pat Robertson trailed the front-runners with 7 percent, while Rep. Jack Kemp, R-N.Y., followed with 5 percent. Former Gov. Pete Du Pont, R-Del., and Gen. Alexander Haig lagged behind with 2 percent. Five percent of Republicans surveyed were undecided.

Elizabeth Dole campaigned in North Carolina Monday, and George Bush visited the state Tuesday, raising \$100,000 at a luncheon, spokespeople said.

While Bush appears to be the Republican front-runner, the Democratic candidates are running a tighter race. Hart led the Democratic contenders with 26 percent, while the Rev. Jesse Jackson trailed with 21 percent.

"The numbers speak for themselves," said Karen Pierce, chairman of the UNC branch of Students With Hart.

Hart campaigned in Fayetteville Tuesday, and Jackson plans to visit

the state next Wednesday, spokesmen said.

Jackson is relying on the South for most of his support, said Bruce Lightner, Jackson's N.C. campaign manager.

"We are more optimistic about Super Tuesday as opposed to Iowa and New Hampshire," he said.

Sen. Albert Gore, D-Tenn., drew 17 percent, followed by Massachusetts Gov. Michael Dukakis with 8

percent. Rep. Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., won 6 percent, Sen. Paul Simon, D-Ill., drew 5 percent and former Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt had 2 percent. Fourteen percent of Southern Democrats were undecided.

The Gallup Poll surveyed voters in North Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, Virginia and South Carolina.

It's not too late to be a DTher

Attention, all you people who couldn't come to the meeting last Friday but still want to write for us: It's not too late!

Come by the DTH office and ask for an application at the front desk. After that, your test will be to come up with a story on the subject of your choice. It must be typed, one and a half to two pages long, and turned in by 5 p.m. Friday.

Write about something that pertains to the desk for which you would most like to work. Our only stipulation is that if you want to work for the Arts desk, don't do a review.

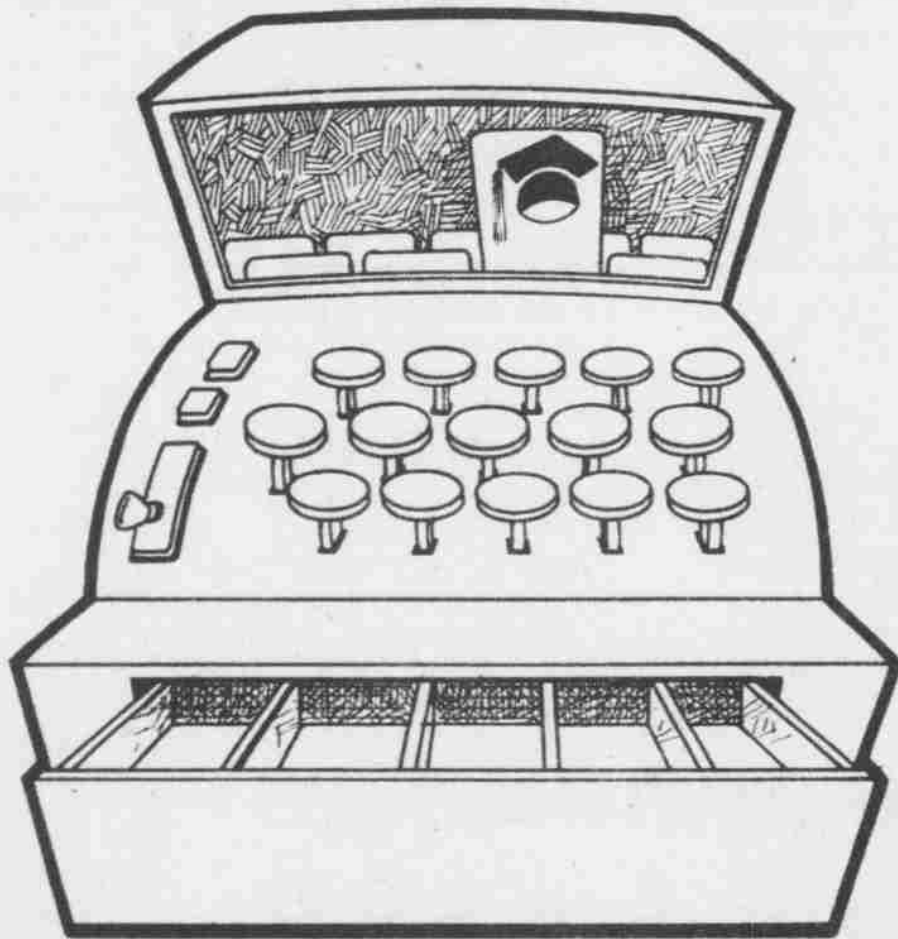
No stories will be accepted after 5 p.m. (part of the test is to see if you can meet a deadline). Results will be posted Sunday.

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- Lisa Langley
Raleigh, NC
Coca Cola USA
Student Coordinator 1984-85

"My experience at Granville was very beneficial for me. I started as a regular worker and moved up to supervisor. When I was interviewing for jobs, it was a big plus having had management experience. The job I had was a lot of responsibility for my age, and that allowed me to show I could handle responsibility."

- Robert Canipe
Pittsburg, PA
PPG Industries
Student Coordinator 1986

"My job in the Granville cafeteria exposed me to management responsibilities, being in charge of 60 to 70 people. I learned organization, how to delegate work, how to deal with different types of people in a work environment, and how to budget labor costs. When I was interviewing for jobs, often I was not even questioned about my school work. They wanted to know about my work experiences here at Granville!"

- David Dyas
Greensboro, NC
Shaw Industries
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