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## N.C. schools ready to celebrate 20th anniversary of Earth Day

By GRANT THOMPSON  
Staff Writer

North Carolina students are joining hundreds of other campuses this Sunday in a celebration of Earth Day 1990, the 20th anniversary of the event. "Earth Day 1970, from what I could

see, was mainly a big party," said Donald Francisco, lecturer in the Department of Environmental Sciences and Engineering. "This appears to be much more serious. Certainly, they have a more understanding approach than the students in 1970."

During the week leading up to Earth Day, organizers across North Carolina and around the world will sponsor a variety of events designed to address environmental issues threatening the globe.

At Duke University, a wide spectrum of activities are planned, said Ellen O'Donnell, Duke Earth Day organizer. A minister will say prayers for the environment, and the campus bar will sponsor a "Buy a Moose, Save a Moose" fundraiser in which a portion of Moosehead beer sales will be donated to the environment.

"The idea is the same," O'Donnell said. "The problem now is that environmentalism is mostly upper middle-class people. It's changing now; the poor are being affected also. We are reaching out to more groups."

"Mostly we want it to be educational and useful," said Harra Sitnick, Earth Day coordinator for UNC-Asheville. Students there plan to host the sixth annual Western North Carolina Summit in which there will be several speakers, including a presentation by the Forest Service on acid rain, Sitnick said.

"We are playing an environmental Jeopardy game to educate students," said Patrick Lilly, president of UNC-Asheville's Ecology Club. "We will

participate in the rally in downtown Asheville in which they expect 5,000 to 10,000 people."

At UNC-Charlotte, students plan to hold an Environmental Health Fair, a teach-in and an Earth Day concert, according to Sandy Kohn, a staff adviser helping with Earth Day preparations.

"In 1978, there was already a large group of socially conscious groups," Kohn said. "Today, instead of being a continuation of past activism, Earth Day is a new awakening for most students."

Although today's students share similar goals with the 1970 Earth Day protestors, there are several differences, said Elizabeth Cox, an Earth Day organizer in Raleigh.

"The emphasis is different. Now Earth Day is an entire city movement, not just for students."

"The fact that the movement is more mainstream is an asset, but we must be careful," Sitnick said. "We can't be placated with just recycling, we must look at more fundamental issues."

Most organizers agree that campus groups need to continue pushing for environmental awareness long after Earth Day.

"We need to translate all this energy and enthusiasm into continued action," said Ethan Clotfelter, Earth Day organizer at UNC-CH.

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## 1990 Census prompts suit

By KEVIN GREENE  
Staff Writer

Officials of the nation's most populated cities are not satisfied with the way the 1990 Census is being conducted.

Last Wednesday, the Office of the City of New York reactivated a lawsuit first filed in 1988 against the U.S. Department of Commerce. The lawsuit seeks the reinstatement of an earlier Census Bureau plan for an adjustment

### U.S. Census forms due by 5 p.m. today

of the 1990 U.S. Census.

According to Tom DeCair, spokesman for the U.S. Department of Commerce, there has always been an undercount of certain groups of citizens in predominantly urban areas during the taking of the census.

He said that over the years, various cities, states and interest groups have sued the U.S. Department of Commerce, which includes the U.S. Census Bureau, to regain this undercount.

As a result, the U.S. Census Bureau spent much of the 1980s trying to develop formulas to adjust the 1990 Census to provide equity to the undercounted. But according to DeCair, the formulas would have made the 1990 Census more inaccurate in the end and the Commerce Department abandoned adjustment plans in 1987.

In November 1988, a lawsuit was filed against the U.S. Department of Commerce on behalf of five major U.S. cities (New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Houston and Miami/Dade County, Fla.), the states of California and New York and several organizations, including the NAACP, National League of Cities and the League of Latin American Citizens.

The lawsuit sought the reinstatement of the U.S. Census Bureau's plan for the adjustment of the 1990 Census. Before the first hearing on the matter, an agreement was reached in which the U.S. Department of Commerce agreed to reconsider the issue of adjustment of the 1990 U.S. Census and to publish guidelines for the decision of whether adjustment would lead to useful and accurate data.

According to David Golden, a representative for the Corporation Council of the City of New York, the newly published guidelines failed to provide rules for the adjustment of the 1990 U.S. Census.

"The Commerce Department went against the court order," Golden said. "Yesterday, we filed a motion asking the court to declare the guidelines null and void."

Golden said the City of New York sought corrected guidelines for the decision on whether to adjust the 1990 Census.

DeCair said this motion would be resisted. He added that this was a move by New York City to claim more political clout and money resulting from the census tabulations of population.

Tina Clements, receiving operations supervisor for the U.S. Census Bureau office in Raleigh, said the adjustment was not needed for the 1990 Census count in North Carolina. "Past census counts in North Carolina have been very accurate," she said.

Clements added that with the apparent success at counting the homeless, the 1990 Census results in North Carolina would probably be more accurate than any taken thus far.

The Raleigh office, which receives the census forms from Wake, Durham, Orange, Person, Granville and Chatham counties, will accept forms until later this week. Next week, follow-up forms will be sent to citizens who have not returned their original forms.

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