

Kaleidoscope

Serving The Students Of The University of North Carolina at Asheville since 1982

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New dorm hits drawing board

By David Plunkett

The UNCA Board of Trustees voted Jan. 19, to ask the UNC Board of Governors for permission to find an architect to design a new residence hall for the campus.

A possible site for the building is across University Heights from Rhodes Science Building.

The tentative completion date is fall 1987, said Dr. Eric Iovacchini, vice-chancellor for student affairs.

The Board of Trustees also discussed the possibility of constructing an alternative to the traditional type of residence hall. One possibility is an apartment-style building to house students with families.

"We're real pleased that the Board of Trustees voted to build a new building so soon," said Vickie Looper-June, Director of Housing and Residence Life.

There will soon be a need for additional housing on campus, she said. The new dormitory was full last

fall; only the second year that it was open.

The current state of UNCA's academic facilities has led some people to question the proposal to build a new residence hall before new classrooms.

"The state of our physical facilities is abysmal," said Dr. Milton Ready, Chairman of the History Department.

"We're inferior to almost any other unit of the system."

All of the fastest growing programs--computer science, communications, music--have outgrown their allotted space, said Ready.

"I really can't speak against a new dorm. Our needs are so great, it's silly to denigrate the need for a new dorm when other schools have both (new dorms and new academic facilities)," he said.

The reason the board chose to go ahead with new housing rather than new academic facilities is that money for the two types of buildings must come from different sources, said

Iovacchini.

The money for new housing is generated from fees for the existing housing facilities and from parking permits. The schools must come up with this money themselves.

The money for new academic facilities comes from the state legislature.

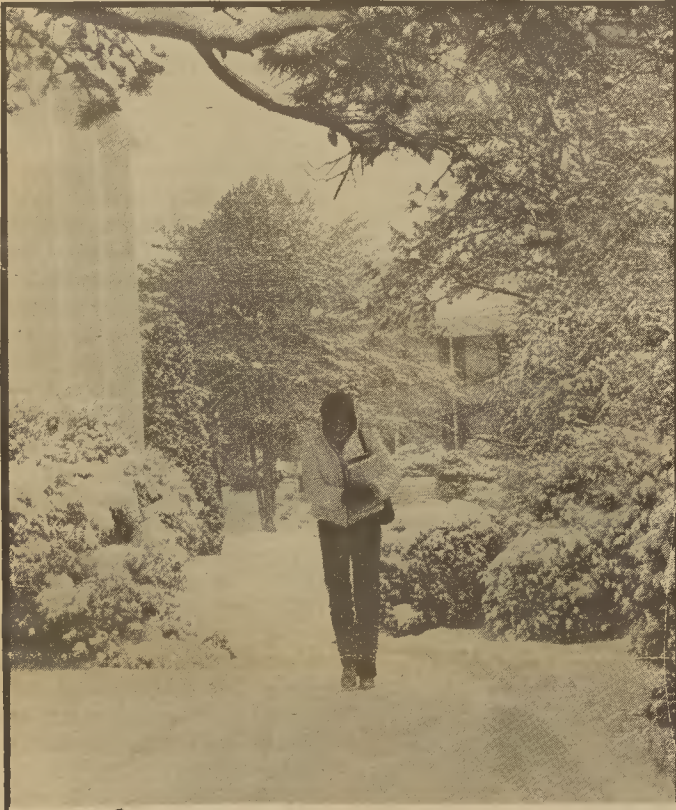
Legislative approval is not needed for a new housing project because funds for it do not come from the state.

"We're very anxious to get an addition for the science building," said Thomas Arnold, Chairman of the UNCA Board of Trustees.

"We hope that the legislature will approve funds for that this summer."

The 1987 completion date for the new dorm is tentative at this point.

The Board of Trustees must now go through the process of getting approval from the UNC Board of Governors and must arrange financing for the project, said Arnold.



The Ground Hog Was Right! After seeing his shadow last Thursday he descended into his burrow for six more weeks of hibernation. Three days later Old Man Winter came to Asheville ground hog hunting. Finding no sign of the prophetic rodent he gave vent to his wrath with a flurry of flakes that closed UNCA classes Monday for the first time in two years. Students who braved the elements to get here found an empty but picturesque campus.

Photo by Gary Skidmore

Industrial engineering attracts seventeen

By David Proffitt

Seventeen students, all presently employed by area companies, enrolled in the new Industrial Engineering program this semester, said Dr. Raoul Alvarez.

Alvarez, a professor at N.C. State University since 1958, is director of the new program which he began planning in September, 1983.

"Chancellor Highsmith was really surprised we put it together so rapidly," said Alvarez.

All of the classes meet during the evening

hours, thus enabling full-time employees of area companies to further their education in this field.

The program, which consists of 30 credit hours of 400-600 level courses, requires a year of calculus and statistics plus knowledge of a high-level computer language, preferably Fortran, as prerequisites, said Alvarez.

UNCA and NCSU will administer the program jointly, with UNCA faculty teaching the minor courses in economics, math, manage-

ment, and computer science.

NCSU faculty members, with the aid of videocassettes, will teach all engineering courses.

"We have been using videocassettes at NCSU for many years with great success. Sometimes the instructors have to travel, but they can still teach their classes in this manner. Students like them because they can view them more than once," said Alvarez.

Every instructor who teaches via videocassettes will visit Ashe-

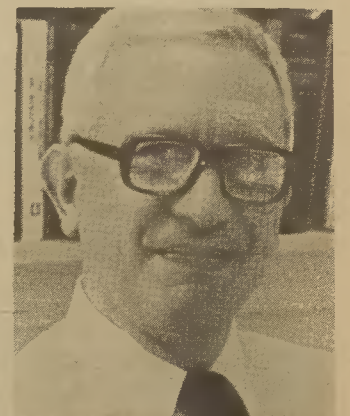
ville at least three times during the semester.

These visits will occur just before exams so they can review the material with the students, said Alvarez.

Additionally, Dr. Alvarez is on campus four days a week.

Industrial engineering, in contrast to other fields of engineering, is primarily concerned with management of production as opposed to design of production, reducing the necessity of expensive equipment.

Continued on page 8



Dr. Raoul Alvarez, director of the new Engineering Program.

Photo by Pam Walker