

# EDITORIAL

## Some cold facts

It would be interesting to know how many of UNCA's student population found themselves caught in Monday's "are there or aren't there classes today?" dilemma. Many of them report frustrations encountered in endeavoring to elicit from some source an answer to that question. Others braved bitter cold and hazardous traveling conditions to make their 8 a.m. classes, only to find them cancelled. Adding injury to insult, those who arrived found the classrooms nearly as frigid and the artic out-of-doors.

When one watched Sunday's "midnight" news, delayed by the Super Bowl, and saw announcements that all Buncombe County and Asheville City Schools, as well as Asheville Buncombe Technical College, would close the next day, but saw no mention of UNCA, one was tempted to decide that UNCA people are Western North Carolina's only living Spartans.

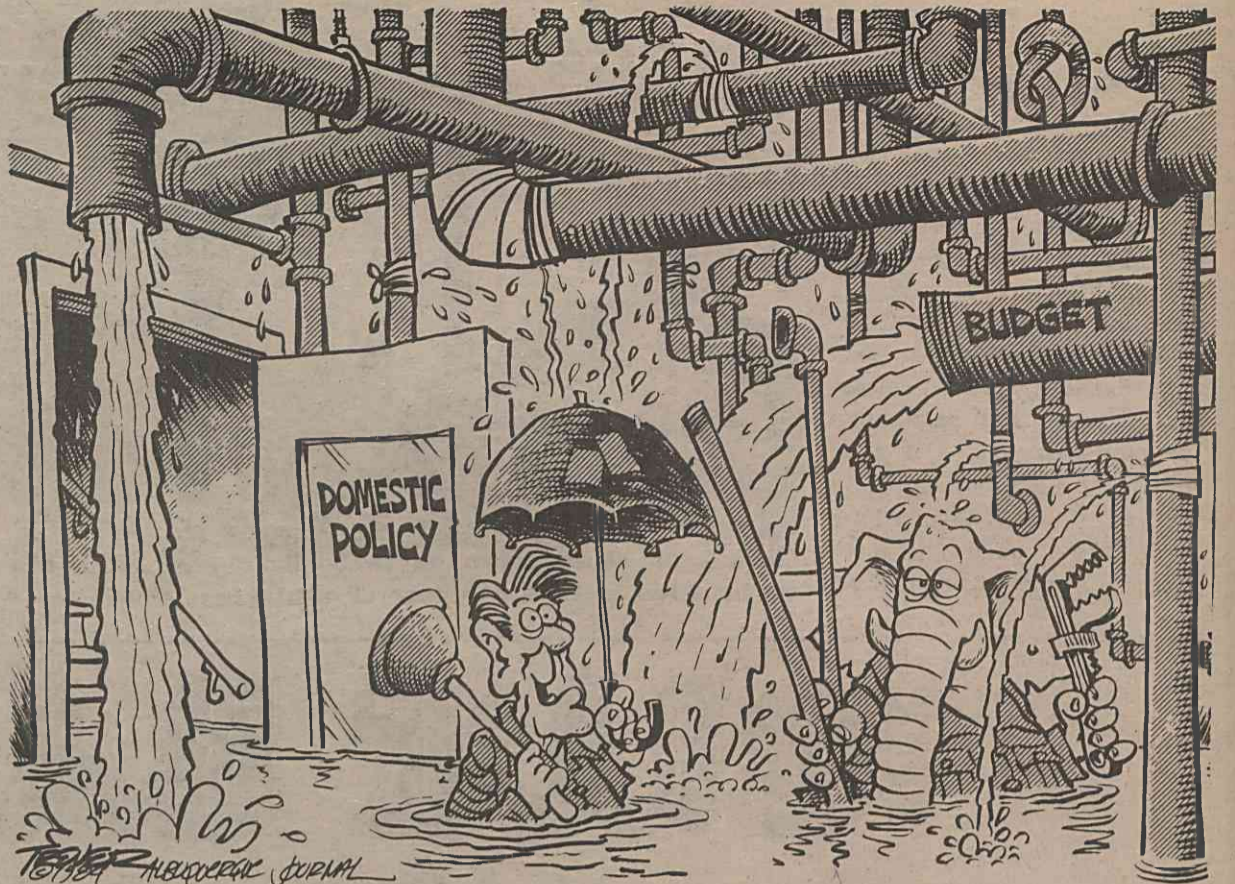
One's pride in being part of such a hardy breed tended to freeze in first flush as one heard about the prevailing temperatures, anywhere from -18 to -23 degrees, with a -30 degree wind chill factor. Surely by morning, one thought, the sluggish decision makers' hearts would thaw enough to call the radio stations and announce surrender to the elements.

But no, the call was not made, not, at least until it was too late for students and teachers with 8 a.m. classes. Some made it. They came with stories of cars that wouldn't start without jumper cables, car lines that tried to freeze, tires punctured by ice, and children left alone because schools and day care centers were closed.

So many students encountered so many problems, in fact, that it seems that some adjustments are called for. Perhaps when every other major educational institution in the area is closing, we at UNCA should examine why we are not. And if we decide that we truly must stay open, then perhaps we should consider providing some sort of on-campus care for the children of our large number of student mothers.

Also, we should make sure those responsible know whether or not to turn up the heat in campus buildings. They should have sufficient notice to get the buildings warm in time for classes.

In addition, it only seems practical that these decisions should be made, and be made known, by at least 6 a.m. the day in question.



"I KNOW! LET'S FIX NICARAGUA...."

## SGA NOTES

By Phil Ross

Welcome back! We at SGA hope that you will have an exciting and enjoyable spring semester. With your cooperation, we will make Spring 1985 our most memorable semester yet.

As the new year begins, we find ourselves somewhat short of personnel. Graduations and resignations have created openings for dedicated and motivated people who would like to have a hand in charting the course for the future of UNCA.

Specifically, we need three new senators senior senators and a secretary.

Senators must have a GPA of at least 2.0, attend all SGA senate meetings, and maintain office hours at least five hours a week. They will be expected to represent their constituencies, help out with various projects, and introduce or assist with introducing, new legislation. Intelligence and inventiveness are prerequisites.

The SGA secretary must attend all SGA senate and Executive Committee meetings, maintain all SGA reports, records, minutes and correspondence, and perform typing tasks when necessary. He or she must also maintain office hours at least fifteen hours a week. A small scholarship is available.

Interested masochists should see either Pat Cabe or Phil Ross for information and a list of additional responsibilities. Their office hours are posted outside the Student Government office, Suite 39 in the Highsmith Student Center.

## Cagle comments on student efforts

By SGA President Ken Cagle

The principal assumption of this column is: What a student gets out of college depends, at least to some extent, on what he or she puts into it. Our notions of quality, or productivity, or outcomes all seem to suggest that what does or does not result from our college experience is dependent upon what the institution does or does not do.

My own view is different. In determining accountability for achievement and related student outcomes one must consider both what the institution offers and what the students do with these offerings.

Quality of student effort is a very powerful concept. It takes more effort, but is more educative, to serve on a committee of a student club or organization than merely to attend a meeting.

It takes more effort, and may be more educative, to ask an instructor for comments and criticisms on a particular assignment than to merely chat informally with the instructor after class.

It takes more effort, and is more educative, to discuss a personal problem with a counselor than to discuss it with a roommate. I also assume that students who spend a greater amount and quality of effort in academic and intellectual matters find that it pays off in better grades or in the quality of personal and interpersonal experiences.

In conclusion: What counts most is not who you are but what you do. When we talk about institutional quality and accountability, we need to remember there is another sort of quality; one that doesn't appear in the budget but is nonetheless priceless, and one that contributes mightily to the quality of education.

This is the quality of effort students themselves invest in using the facilities and opportunities before them. As UNCA expands its mission, we as students need to get involved in a student effort focused on the promotion of higher education.

## THE BLUE BANNER

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Nothing in the editorial or opinion sections necessarily represents the position of the entire BANNER staff, the staff advisor, or UNCA's Student Government Association, administration or faculty. Editorials represent the opinion of the editor and/or of a majority of the seven-member editorial board. Letters, columns, cartoons and reviews represent only the views of their authors. The editor makes the final decision about what the BANNER prints.

The BANNER welcomes letters to the editor and articles, and considers them for publication on the basis of interest, space, tastefulness and timeliness. Letters and articles should be typed double-spaced, or printed legibly. They should be signed with the writer's name followed by year in school, major or other relationship to UNCA. Please include a telephone number to aid in verification.

All submitted articles or letters are subject to editing. The BANNER regrets it cannot guarantee the return of any article submitted. Deadline for submissions is Friday noon.

Due to limited space, letter and opinion writers should restrict their submissions to 500 words in length.