

Editorials

The Banner



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Banner contributes to breaking the status quo

Does The Banner serve the UNCA community? I learned this week that we have not been asked to serve on any campus student boards because of the belief that we "only put out a newspaper each week" and really don't serve UNCA students. Unfortunately, the fact that we don't have cake and cookie parties means that we are not a "visible" force on this campus. However, that type of activity is not our job, and if we were using our money to do that, you as the student body would certainly have room to question. So what do we do for the campus?

One of the many functions of a newspaper is to provide a forum for public debate. This debate is spurred by the content of factual articles and the opinions voiced through the editorial pages. The growth of ideas comes from the exchange that occurs when alternate opinions converge. The belief that this battle of ideas will provide a growing and changing truth is what motivated the framers of the Constitution to add the first amendment to protect the freedom of written as well as other forms of expression.

In the struggle for truth, there are times when feelings are hurt and feathers are ruffled, but this is the price we pay to foster the growth of ideas. It is much easier to frost over problems than to put up with growing pains, and that is too often the road we choose. In an interview, Pat Nelson, the attorney who will defend Dr. Marketta Laurila in her suit against the university, said UNCA's problem is that it is so in love with the status quo. This attraction is a university wide problem and affects all students, faculty and administration. The only way to break this addiction is to face the growing pains that always accompany new ideas.

It is the role of The Banner to provide a forum and sometimes a stimulus that will allow for the emersion of ideas that can allow us to transcend the status quo. This is our service to the UNCA community.

Banner Policies

The Banner is the University of North Carolina at Asheville's student newspaper. We publish each Thursday except during summer sessions, finals week and holiday breaks. Our office is located in Carmichael Hall, 208-A. Phone (704) 251-6586 or 251-6591.

Nothing in the editorial or opinion sections necessarily represents the position of the entire BANNER staff, the staff advisor, UNCA's Student Government Association, administration or faculty. Editorials represent the opinion of the majority of the editorial board. Letters, columns, cartoons and reviews represent only the views of their authors. The editorial board makes the final decision about what the BANNER prints. This newspaper represents a public forum for debate at UNCA.

The BANNER welcomes letters to the editor and articles, and considers them on the basis of interest, space, tastefulness, and timeliness. Letters and articles should be typed double-spaced, or printed legibly, and limited to 300 words. They should be signed with the writers name, followed by the year in school, major or other relationship to UNCA. Please include a telephone number to aid in verification. UNSIGNED LETTERS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED FOR PUBLICATION. All submitted articles are subject to editing. THE BANNER regrets it cannot guarantee the return of any article submitted.

Banner Deadlines

Letters to the editor	Mon 6p.m.
Classifieds	Mon 6p.m.
Announcements	Mon 6p.m.
Display Ads	Mon 1p.m.

Will Bush be a good President?

The election is finally over and George Bush has emerged the victor. I'm sure that most people are relieved that the whole thing is behind us and we can forge ahead with our lives without seeing ad after ad lambasting one candidate or the other. However allow me to indulge in yet another political column, and I promise not to repeat the same old stuff.

George Herbert Walker Bush will be sworn in on January 20 as the Forty-first President of the United States. Whether or not you voted for him, whether or not you support his positions is of little consequence now. Our democratic process of elections has produced the product that it was designed to produce - the people's choice to be their president. That is just what Mr. Bush

is - our president. All belly-aching and gripes about the lackluster campaign, and bitterness over what's-his-face's defeat should be put aside, and we must accept Mr. Bush as our leader. Acceptance, of course does not eliminate disagreement, for without dissenting voices, our system loses it's effectiveness.

What is in store for the next four years with Bush at the helm? First we can expect a continuation of the Reagan legacy, with a few revisions. These revisions include elements of the man himself. Bush is far more intelligent than the man he succeeds, and will not surround himself with cronies who turn out to be quite less than honest. Bush is also in possession of an attention span of more than ten minutes, which will

allow detailed briefings and comprehension of the issues that he will face as president. Furthermore, Bush is a liberal (yes, liberal) conservative in comparison to Reagan, and will reflect this in his dealings with the new Democrat - controlled Congress.

There are areas of concern involving the Supreme Court, the Federal Budget Deficit, and in dealings with the Soviet Union.

As far as the Court is concerned, there is little reason to worry. First the Court is fairly well balanced, and there is not much chance of anyone that Bush will appoint altering this significantly. Second, judging by the way the Court has been ruling lately, they are leaning toward upholding the existing law more than

creating new law. Next is the Budget deficit, which is, quite simply, not that much of a problem. In dealing with the Soviets, Mr. Bush has a distinct strength. His foreign policy experience is vast and the leaders of the world know and respect him for it. This is evidenced by the upcoming mini - summit between Reagan, Gorbachev, AND Bush.

I look forward to the upcoming years with confidence, not only in George Bush, but in the nation strong in its desire to succeed, and confident in its choice of who will lead it toward its goal.

Adam Brooks
 Columnist

Letters

Bush Presidency will make for a sad four years

Tears.

Tears stream down my face and the ink runs on the page before me. The people have spoken, and the victors are jubilant. But I am sad. I am not sad, though, for the Democratic party; nor am I sad for Mike Dukakis. They have retained control of the House of Representatives and the Senate; he ran a clean honest campaign, and has set a fine example of what every American can and should strive for. No, my tears are not for any of that.

My tears are heavy for America. George Bush will, barring an un expected tragedy, be our next President, and the four years will be a dark period in the United States for this reason.

What can we hope for? Plenty.

First of all, if you happen to be making over \$200,000 a year, you can expect a \$40,000 tax break; if you earn

less than \$30,000 a year, you can expect nothing.

If, young lady, you happen to become pregnant with an unwanted child, you will have two options. You may elect to obtain an illegal abortion, and risk criminal prosecution, or you can bring that unwanted child into the world and take your chances on dwindling Federal day care assistance, because you will have to work (maybe two jobs to afford your child). You can take your chances if you should happen to need Welfare someday, because that too may be defunct. And you can take your chances that maybe, just maybe, your baby will grow up to find an America that he can live in, where the air is safe to breathe, and the water is safe to drink.

If you happen to be a senior citizen, you can hope for a Social Security that will mean something to you, in

the financial long run. You can also hope that, as the high cost of living broguted about by Reganomics continue to rise under Bushnomics, that your Social Security will keep step with it.

But, most important to the readers of this paper should be the hope for a change in the trend of Federal Financial assistance for college students. For the last decade, this assistance has been on the steady decline due to the heavy hand of Ronald Reagan, et al. He and his friends (i.e. George Bush) don't care if you can afford to attend college.

Their style of Dictatorship is designed around a small, elite portion of the population being wealthy, and the rest of us contributing to that wealth. These people in their mansions and limosines rarely consider how it would be to live on a shoestring, like you

and I do.

But, the people have spoken.

No matter what I say now, George Bush will occupy 1600 Pennsylvania ave, Washington, DC for the next four years. Who knows, with a Democratically controlled Congress, maybe he won't get away with the torment he intends to levy upon us. I only urge each and every one of you to scrutinize his and his allies' moves very carefully, so the next time, when you have a chance to make a change, you will be better prepared to do just that.

I'll close now because I'm tired. In fact, I'm Bushed!

Wendell Whitney Thorne
 Sophomore
 Literature

People should spend less time orating and vote

Many people have opinions which they frequently like to express. In this country it seems to be more than a preoccupation; it has been a lifestyle. In an election year, one can find the solution to any national problem or economic crisis. One can hardly go to the men's room without hearing someone's solution to a troubled society or seeing it scrawled across a wall in blue pen. All this, of course, is a fine proposition. It seems our only course of action would be to make sure our politicians hear about it for then we could sit back and watch our problems disappear.

Without being too drastic,

I would like to accuse a few people of being a little windy. Like 1/4 of the population.

Having worked on several campaigns this year, I found that selling a candidate and getting your solution heard, like anything, is a lot of work. I can reasonably understand that this is not for everyone. Voting for a candidate, however, is another matter. It is quick, easy, and takes about ten minutes. Many people, the majority being composed of the most vocal and derogatory, did not bother to vote. They seem to believe in their ideas as much as I did. Instead of being as loudmouthed and annoying, it might have

helped if that energy were channeled into something more constructive.

It is not a lack of tolerance for other views that prompts me to say that most of the 1/4 were not worth anyone's time of day. It is their own irresponsibility. They don't care enough to find out the facts, learn what the arguments are on both sides or even have a reason for their "Convictions." They seem only to like the sound of their voice. Perhaps if they looked a little deeper, participated earnestly, and voiced their opinion for a reason other than ego gratification, we would not have heard "I choose none of

the above" or "Anythings better than who's in now". Those who maintained these attitudes invariably did not vote. In a way this is fortunate for we don't have to put up with the ludicrous ideas they came up with for four years. In concluding, I would like to congratulate those who had the responsibility to vote, especially if it was your first time. For those who were the type I mentioned before, there is only one thing left to say to you, "Shut up."

Rob Young
 Sophomore

Registration is a bitter pill for students to swallow

Once again the semesterly obscenity is played out: registration. Lines from Lipinsky to Library. Three hours, minimum, to complete a simple, routine bits of paperwork.

Clearly this administration isn't worth the powder to blow it to hell. It has no respect at all for the time of

the students it overworks so badly that 25% are on or near probation. Do you believe for a nanosecond that registration would take more than ten seconds if they were paying for the time instead of you? Waste 10,000 hours of their time? Dream on!

If there were 30,000 of us, fine, there are a mere 3000.

This is a private-size college, as they are fond of telling us.

What would you expect from an administration that can't count the students and the parking spaces and notice the discrepancy in the numbers?

Ultimately the students have the power. We can

stand in lines, sweet little sheep, and tolerate administrative incompetency, or, it's just possible we can stand up on our hind feet and spit and cuss with these slobbered-at-the-public-trough bureaucrats do their jobs.

Tom Pettis
 Drama Dept.