



Review of Tori Amos, Page 4.

**Student leader wins award** 8  
**African art on display in library** 4  
**Baseball wins one out of four** 7

**Weekend Weather:** Increasing cloudiness over the weekend. Lows in the 40s, highs in the 50s.

# The Blue BANNER

Volume 24, Number 23

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

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## "Hands-off" policy passed by heads of UNC system

**Kenneth Corn**  
Staff Writer

The North Carolina Board of Governors passed a new policy concerning improper relationships between students and employees on March 18. Recent events of misconduct at the North Carolina School of the Arts and at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill prompted the new policy.

"It (the policy) is saying 'hands-off students,'" said Tom Cochran, vice chancellor for academic affairs. "My advice to our faculty is going to be that they do not mess around with students, period."

The policy starts, "The University of North Carolina does not condone amorous relationships between students and employees." It says employees "should avoid" these kinds of relationships, which could "harm students and damage the integrity of the academic enterprise." The policy warns that sexual relationships between people who are not married are illegal in the state of North Carolina and "can result in criminal liability."

Under this policy, the University can take disciplinary action in two types of situations. It is misconduct for a university employee "to evaluate or supervise any enrolled student of the institution with whom he or she has an amorous relationship." It is also misconduct for an employee "to engage in sexual activity with any enrolled student... below the age of 18 years."

The policy defines amorous relationships as "when, without the benefit of marriage, two persons as consenting partners have a sexual union or engage in a romantic partnering or courtship" that may or may not be sexual. "My position will be to tolerate nothing," said Cochran. "Anybody who is currently engaged in these actions, if it is reported, will be disciplined."

According to Cochran, under the first line of the policy, he can take action against any faculty member engaged in an amorous relationship regardless of whether the faculty member is in a supervisory position over the student or not. He said this policy "allows us to discourage consenting relationships between faculty and students."

Cochran said the policy covers all situations of faculty members dating students. He said a faculty member could meet someone outside campus at a party or bar who might be a part-time student. Under the policy, that faculty member would be at risk of getting disciplined if they chose to press the relationship while the other person is still a student.

"The policy would only address the faculty member's relationships if the student was a student under his or her direction for that class," said Kristie Childress, director of human resources. "Now you would get into a question more of ethical values and ethical morals when a faculty member engages in a relationship with a student that may not be under their supervision."

Childress said any situations where

**POLICY** cont. on pg. 10

## SGA president responds to accusations of impeachable conduct

**Marissa DeBlasio**  
Staff Writer

On March 27, the student government senate was canceled due to the candidate's debate. The senate was scheduled to discuss SGA President Dhaval "Doc" Patel's stipend and charges of impeachable acts as brought against him by Rebecca Barraclough and Mark Dann, senior senators.

Barraclough accused Patel of not fulfilling several duties outlined in his job description. According to Dann,

these acts are impeachable under the by-laws of the student government constitution. Patel refuted several accusations in a letter to the senators, dated March 24.

"I am not happy with the fact that the question of impeachment is brought up when about four meetings are left in our administration. I am also not happy with the fact that the issues that were considered for my stipends were not used for all the people in SGA. I am not saying that I disagree with what you are doing

with me. I am saying it should be done with everyone and not just me," said Patel in the letter.

Among the accusations made by Barraclough is that Patel appointed himself representative to the University Planning Committee (UPC), then did not attend meetings. Patel countered that he originally appointed Dann and senior Beth Daniels as UPC representatives. Daniels resigned at the beginning of the term and Dann had other obligations, said Patel. He then decided to attend the meetings

himself, but missed the first meeting due to confusion concerning the date of the meeting.

"I take full responsibility of missing that meeting. I should have cleared which Wednesday the meeting was on rather than assuming," said Patel in the letter.

The second accusation Patel addressed was not paying the dues for the Association for Student Governments (ASG). According to Patel, the

**PRESIDENT** cont. on pg. 8

## Students beat last year's voter turnout numbers

**Christine Treadaway**  
Staff Writer

With nearly twice as many students voting in this past week's SGA elections as last year, all the positions for next year's student government were filled. About 563 students cast votes over the two-day election period.

"Generally, the election went really well," said Tiffany Drummond, elections commissioner. "We had one of the biggest turnouts in the last several years," she said.

Sergio Mariaca was elected president, and Ellie Dimondstein was elected vice president. Residential senators are Bill Christopher, Eric Fehlman, and Shannon Mullen. Elected as commuter senators were Dawn Blair, Anna Gaddy, and Aletha Roper. Senior senators for next year are Jeff Greer, Quentin Cavanagh, and Colin Barry. Junior Senators are Ken Hartley, Sara Worth, and Meg Purchase. Sophomore senators are Alphonso Donaldson, Josh Littlejohn, and Mischa Irsch.

Gaddy, Roper, Cavanaugh, Barry, Hartley, Worth, and Purchase are not official winners until a GPA check is done, said Drummond. "Write-in winners must have a 2.0 GPA or higher in order to be eligible for any SGA seat," said Drummond.

"In the commuter spot, there was only one person on the ballot, Dawn Blair. She won with 109 votes, but there are three spots available. The third person with the most votes was Aletha Roper, who won with only three votes," Drummond said.

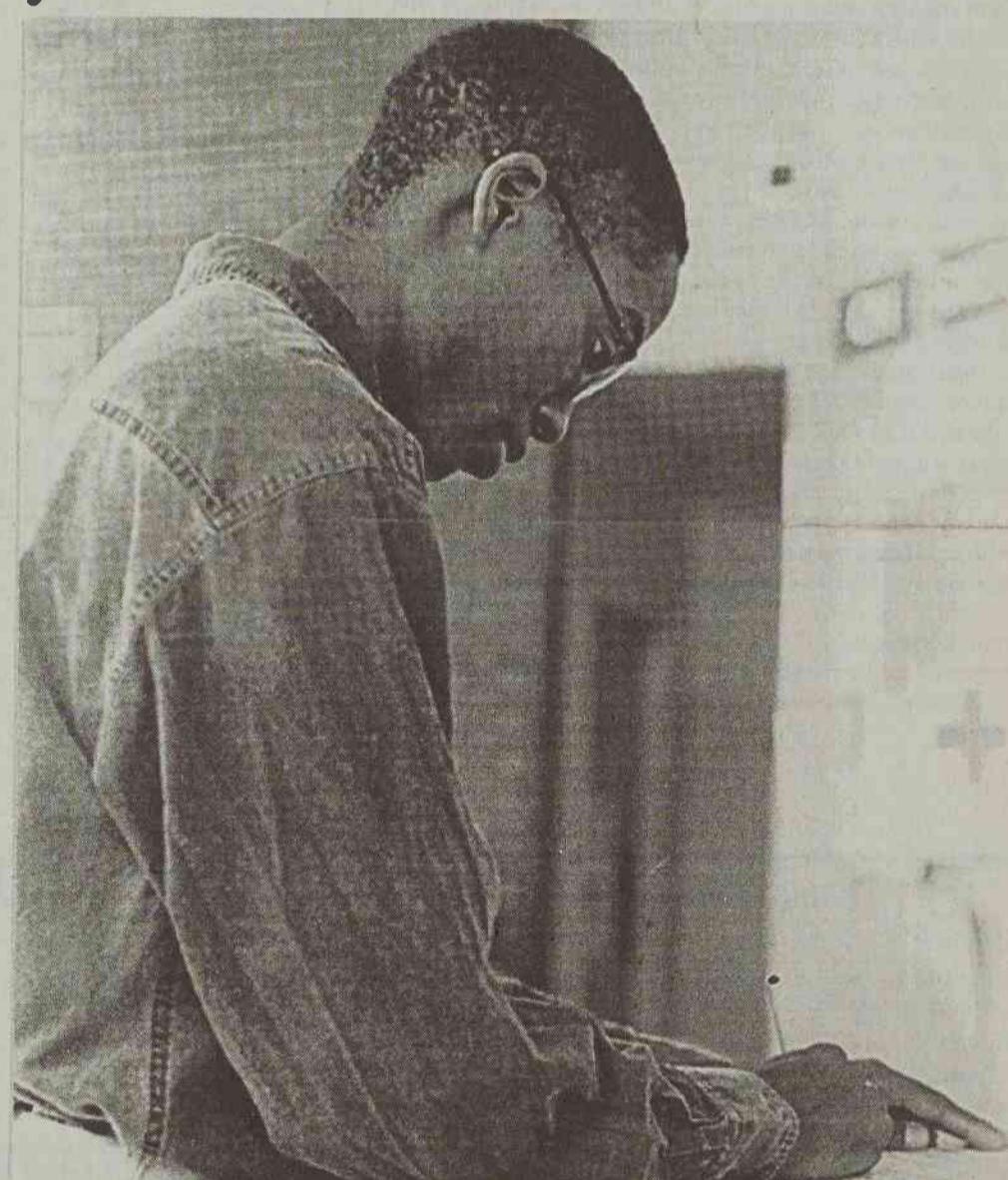
Although most people seem to be pleased with the way the elections were run, some students said they were not informed well enough concerning who the campaigning candidates were. "The biggest complaint that I heard at the polls was the fact that they (voters) didn't know the candidates. There were two public events held, but they still said they didn't know the candidates, the issues, or how the candidates stood on the issues," said Drummond.

Sara Jones, a member of the elections committee agreed. "It's kind of disappointing to see that nobody knows what's going on. You know, every time you say, 'Hey, have you voted?' they say, 'Oh, I didn't even know elections were today,'" Jones said. When asked how enthusiastic students were about voting, Jones said, "You generally have to drag people by the ear to get over here to vote."

Drummond said the second biggest problem with this year's election was not enough people on the ballot. There were 18 positions for SGA seats available, yet only 12 candidates on the ballot. "I felt sorry for the upcoming juniors voting, because you'd hand them a ballot and there's just three empty spots. There's not much they could do with that," Drummond said.

Drummond also voiced some concern about how

**ELECTIONS** cont. on pg. 10



Rafrica Adams votes for SGA representatives last Thursday and Friday. According to SGA Elections Chair Tiffany Drummond, nearly twice as many students voted this year compared to last year.

### And the winners are...

**President- Sergio Mariaca**

**Vice President- Ellie Dimondstein**

**Residential Senator- Bill Christopher, Eric Fehlman, Shannon Mullen**

**Commuter Senator- Dawn Blair, Anna Gaddy\*, Aletha Roper\***

**Senior Senator- Jeff Greer, Quentin Cavanagh\*, Colin Barry\***

**Junior Senator- Ken Hartley\*, Sara Worth\*, Meg Purchase\***

**Sophomore Senator- Alphonso Donaldson, Josh Littlejohn, Mischa Irsch**

\* indicates write-in candidates who are not official winners until a GPA check is completed.

## Modem service started to combat campus traffic jam on the internet

**Susan Sertain**  
Staff Writer

MCI will offer a special campus modem service at UNCA, according to the director of university computing.

"The proposed implementation date announced by MCI is by mid-June but we are trying to improve that," said Kern Parker.

There is much excitement about this, said Parker, "because it is an unmanageable problem." At present,

there is not enough resources to keep up with the student demands, he said.

Students who use the modems in the computer lab often deal with frustration because the lines are busy, said Parker. There are 12 modems available for students to use free of charge. "For approximately 1,000 to 1,500 modem users, that's a bit of a bottleneck," said Michael Welch, a senior majoring in political science.

People like to dial in to their computer accounts particularly from 8

p.m. until midnight, said Parker. With only 12 modems available, "users get frustrated because all they get are busy signals."

Amy Hargreaves, lab assistant, had no problems accessing the Internet several years ago, "but these past two semesters connection has become impossible," she said. This is mainly because of the many electronic-mail users. She related a story of someone who put their phone on auto-dial to the campus modem connection and it

rang over 500 times. "It will be a big relief to have the new service," she said.

Students who have computers in their homes or dorm rooms use their modems to connect to the modems on campus. "They have a modem on their computer that they hook up to a phone line and they dial in and connect to a modem that we supply," said

**MODEM** cont. on pg. 10