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UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

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Campus Highlights

■ If you haven't noticed, there's an election coming up on Tuesday, Nov. 5. While this isn't a "Campus Highlight," the event deserves a lot of everyone's attention. 1996 is a big election year for both North Carolina and the United States as offices from state senate to the presidency of the United States are up for grabs. If you are unsure where you need to go to vote, call the Board of Elections in the county that you are registered to vote. The Buncombe County Board of Elections telephone number is 255-5123.

■ The trees have changed and the weather has grown much colder. Baseball is over, and summer is just a memory. What does this all mean? Basketball season is right around the corner. While men's and women's soccer prepare for tournament play, the men's basketball team will have their annual Blue-White scrimmage on Monday, Nov. 4 at 7:30 p.m. This will be the first opportunity for the campus to get a look at the 1996-97 team, as well as new coach Eddie Biedenbach. While the regular season will not begin until Nov. 23 against East Tennessee State University, the scrimmage will hopefully quench your appetites until then. The scrimmage is free to all faculty, staff, and students with ID.

■ Ever wondered what 30 singing French middle school students look like? The opportunity to find out comes to UNCA on Monday, Nov. 4, when the students will be performing a multi-ethnic song and dance revue at 3:45 p.m. in Lipinsky Auditorium. The group is touring its "French Spectacle," complete with native costumes, throughout the eastern U.S. The hour-long performance is free and open to the public, and would make an excellent cultural event for all you humanities students that don't realize that there are only a few weeks left of school. The performance is co-sponsored by UNCA's Education Department and St. Joseph's Franco-American Exchange in Dijon, France.

■ Being nestled in the mountains has its advantages, but one is not local access to a professional sports team. Luckily, Charlotte is right down the road, and the Hornets are preparing for a new NBA season. Tickets for all home games are for sale in Highsmith Center. There are a limited number of tickets available to students, faculty, and staff, but the priority goes to the students. If any tickets remain 24 hours before the games, then faculty and staff may purchase them. If interested, call Sharyn McDonald at 6669 for more information.

■ Visiting filmmaker Richard Breyer will present his film "Esta Esperanza" at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 8 in the Humanities Lecture Hall. Tickets, available at the door, are free to students and \$4 for general admission. He will also conduct a brown bag lunch conversation on "Becoming a Documentarian" from noon-1:15 p.m.

Counselor says marijuana use by students probably up

Monica Williams
Staff Writer

Despite a week of event that the Peer Education Class held to present alternatives to drinking and drug use, some students feel that substance use cannot be curbed on campus. National Alcohol Awareness week was Oct. 21-25.

"With all these on-campus fraternities and sororities throwing parties all the time, alcohol abuse will never go down," said a student who asked to remain anonymous. "I am sure that they don't want anyone to be aware of the abuses of alcohol and or drugs, because then they wouldn't have anyone attend their dumb 'let's get drunk' parties. It is really sickening that they make a profit from people vomiting all over themselves."

Vicki Brunnick, counselor and adjunct instructor in health promotion, said that the purpose of National Alcohol Awareness week was to inform the student body.

"This is an annual event that has been held on college campuses for over ten years," said Brunnick. "It is just to bring awareness to the campus, not to be preachy. We just want to make people aware that we are aware that abuses happen and to have some alternative activities for students. We wanted to show them that partying is not the only option that they have."

Brunnick said the events held during the week had a really good response, and it showed that people would enjoy having on-campus activities on the weekends.

"We put on the Bouncing Pumpkins basketball tournament last Fri-

day night, and over 125 students attended," said Brunnick. "We had a comedian Monday night and over 50 people attended that. There was also good attendance at our other events. We were very pleased."

Some on-campus organizations said they practice alcohol awareness throughout the year.

"We are always acknowledging alcohol awareness, along with the other fraternities on this campus," said sophomore Ian Jones, president of Kappa Delta Rho fraternity. "Anytime we throw a party, we rent out shuttle buses to and from the party to make sure that there are no drunk drivers getting themselves and other people hurt. So, every week is National Alcohol Awareness Week for us."

Some students feel providing shuttle

buses is just a superficial attempt to show the campus that they care.

"They should check IDs when people get on those shuttles," said the anonymous student. "I know many underage students that go to those parties and get drunk off their asses."

"Those fraternities do not practice alcohol awareness and don't care about it either. If they did, they would look inside people's book bags when they got on the bus."

"I sincerely doubt that they are going to those parties to study. Those bags are filled with alcohol. You would have to be really stupid not to realize that."

"I have thought of calling the Asheville Police Department many times to raid their parties, but some of

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About ten students took the campus lighting tour last Tuesday night. Eric Iovacchini (far left) led the tour, and SGA president Sergio Mariaca also attended.

Students help administration identify problem areas in need of lighting

John Hodges
Staff Writer

The vice-chancellor of student affairs conducted a lighting tour on UNCA's campus last Tuesday night to survey the street lights and walk-way lights. The tour determined whether or not people walking on the campus at night have ample light, and to identify the areas that do not have sufficient lighting.

"Tuesday night, we traveled around campus looking for lighting problems," said Eric Iovacchini, vice-chancellor of student affairs. "We (the group) identified areas that could have improved lighting. We identified some areas that need new lights, some places that need vegetation pruning, and some lights that are in need of repair."

"We do a lighting tour annually and try to bring members of the community that have an interest in campus safety," said Iovacchini. "We have several people join us on the tour including the housing director, the facilities manager, and we also ask students to join us. The tour is open to the public and we like to hear the input from everyone, including members of the community to see what they think about the light on campus."

Some students said they feel the lighting on campus is sufficient in some areas, but lacking in others. They also said they hope those who were

on the lighting tour made note of those specific places and that lights will be installed there soon.

"I think that most of the campus has pretty good lighting," said sophomore Tiffany Drummond. "I really don't have a problem walking alone at night. But I do have meetings in Owen Hall every Wednesday at 9 p.m. and I always ask someone to walk with me."

"I think that the lighting around Zagier Hall and Owen Hall can be improved," said Drummond. "There, the lighting isn't really good and many places are very dark."

Iovacchini said walkways around Owen Hall and Zagier Hall and some places on the quad were places that do need some improved lighting.

"We found in the years past that new lights are not always the solution to the problem of darkness," said Iovacchini. "Sometimes branches and trees need to be pruned, or the light just needs to be spread out more or angled in a different way."

"We saw that the main problem of the sidewalks around Owen and Zagier was the growth of some of the vegetation," said Iovacchini. "It was taken down on a list, and workers from the physical plant will be pruning, not cutting anything down, there very shortly. We also noticed that some lights could be added to the quad area, not really big lights that light everything up, but some landscape

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Tensions rise at weekend forum

Aimee Campbell
Staff Writer

A forum sponsored by UNCA Out! held last weekend addressed the issues of Christianity and homosexuality. However, some students that attended said the forum didn't adequately address the issues and was basically just a "shouting match" between various Christian groups and UNCA Out!.

"The reaction to the forum was generally favorable, but unfavorable in how it took shape," said panelist Adrian Tatum. "There was a progression of people being disrespectful and not listening."

Tracy Wilson, co-president of UNCA Out!, said that the forum was held in response to the Christian-based discussions that were recently held on campus.

"After the Veritas Forum a couple of weeks ago, we had a desire to have another forum on similar issues, religion and diversity, to show that there is more than one viewpoint on the issue, and that there is no one opinion that is the standard," said Wilson.

"Our goal was not to find 'the answer' because we knew that wouldn't be possible, but to initiate discussion, which we did and did well," Wilson continued.

Wilson says she believes the forum addressed the issues well and at least partially achieved its purpose.

"We had several panelists who were gay or lesbian and Christian, as well as two panelists who were Christian, but not gay or lesbian, who were coming from a more conservative viewpoint," said Wilson.

"What we did not want to do was set up what is 'right' and what is 'wrong,'" said Wilson. "We wanted instead to have a discussion where people could bring forward different points and things to think about and talk about."

"I think if our goal had been to make everybody like each other, that wouldn't have been a reasonable goal," said Wilson. "Our goal was conversation, and we achieved that goal."

Some of the panelists said that the discussion topics needed more variation.

"If it's going to be done, give it a proper title," said Tatum. "If it's going to be on religion and diversity, say so. If it's going to be on homosexuality and Christianity, say so."

"If it's about religion, I want to see Christians, Jews, Muslims, Protestants, Catholics, whatever," continued Tatum. "And if it's about diversity, I want to see homosexuals, heterosexuals, African-Americans, white Americans, Native Americans, everyone who makes up a diverse population."

"If you're going to give a forum on religion and diversity, you need to address religion and diversity," said Tatum.

Some of the organizers feared that the forum would instigate a lot of conflict.

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