

The Banner

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NEWS BRIEFS

Discussion of religion in "Angels"

Two UNCA student religious organizations, the Latter-day Saints Association and the Jewish Student Organization, will sponsor a lecture on Mormon and Jewish themes in the Tony Kushner play "Angels in America" on Feb. 21. Michael Evenden, chair of the department of theater studies at Emory University, will speak on "Religion and Political Progress in 'Angels in America'." The UNCA Theatre production of Kushner's work will continue at the Carol Belk Theatre until Feb. 23. The lecture, followed by a discussion, is free and open to the public, and will begin at 4 p.m.

Piano recital

Pianist Deborah Belcher, an adjunct faculty member with UNCA's music department, will perform at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 23 in Lipinsky Hall 018. Included in the recital are works by Haydn, Chopin, Schumann, and Prokofiev. Admission is free.

"Big Yellow" search engine

NYNEX, a communications corporation, created an online job search site for college students nearly a year ago, and more than one million visitors access the web site (www.bigyellow.com) each month. The site, known as Big Yellow, has a database that includes 16 million businesses across the country, categorized by business type. Students can use a search engine to locate the type of business they want to target by location, file a resume with the JobBank, or access listings for employment services across the country.

Dale Wachowiak, director of the UNCA Career Center, said the Career Center's home page (www.unca.edu/career) has links to many other online job search sites as well. "I think it is very valuable to learn the methodology, and I think there are some valuable job connections," Wachowiak said. "People are having a lot of luck using the Internet as a networking tool. If you can target geographic regions or specific companies, you can often get valuable information."

Behind-the-scenes industries tour

New jobs, plant openings, and economic opportunity will be the focus of a Behind-the-Scenes tour of Buncombe County businesses and industries. The day-long tour will feature speakers and site visits.

The Center for Creative Retirement is sponsoring the tour on Feb. 22. Advance registration is required. The tour will cost \$40, including transportation and lunch, and is open to people of all ages. For information and to register, call the Center for Creative Retirement at 251-6140.

Corrections

In the Feb. 13 edition of *The Banner*, in a story regarding the suspension of students from the gym, Steve Cornish, the men's head soccer coach, was incorrectly identified as the person who contacted campus security in the incident.

Also in last week's edition, a public service announcement incorrectly stated that the UNCA track teams would compete at the UNCA High School Invitational on Feb. 14. UNCA hosted the event. *The Banner* regrets these errors.

Theta Chi returns

By Stephanie Hunter
Staff Writer

The spring 1997 semester marks a new beginning for one of UNCA's fraternities. After a probation period of approximately five years, Theta Chi returns to UNCA's campus.



Nina East

Theta Chi's probation sentence banned the fraternity from recognition by the university, and the university also banned the fraternity from any involvement in campus functions, said Richard Reed, a senior meteorology major and member of Theta Chi.

"There were several processes that we had to go through to get back on (campus)," said Reed. "Basically, we had to serve out most of our probation sentence." The original incident that led to

the fraternity's probation had to do with a racial slur communicated by a fraternity member, and the fraternity accepted responsibility for this, said Nina East, director of student development.

This incident occurred at a UNCA basketball game in 1992. Two African American students saw a member of Theta Chi wearing a hat with two racial slurs written on it.

As a result, the fraternity received an 18-month social probation, said Sam Jones, a senior political science major and vice-president of Theta Chi.

This incident attached a racist image to Theta Chi, said Jones. Another activity led to the complete removal of the fraternity from the UNCA campus for five years, said East.

This activity occurred after the campus administration had promised to have the Greek letters of UNCA's fraternities and sororities painted on University Heights coming off of W.T. Weaver Boulevard.

The administration found out later that these letters had to be painted over because a city ordi-

nance called for the removal of these letters.

"Those letters were not painted over at the time they had said they would be," said Jones.

Campus administration hired students to paint over the letters, and they did so around 11:30 at night, said Jones. "There is a racial stigmatism attached to the incident," said Jones. "Two of the students hired to paint over the letters belonged to the African American Student Association. Representatives from all the fraternities were there, but one of our members was involved in a confrontation with those two students," said Jones.

"We never construed ourselves as a racist organization, even though we do take responsibility for one of our members having acted in that way," said Jones.

"We've made efforts with the African American community on campus, as well as other groups, to educate our members on racial tensions and racial issues. We've made it a direct effort to integrate the fraternity, and in doing so,

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Philadanco helps UNCA celebrate African-American History Month

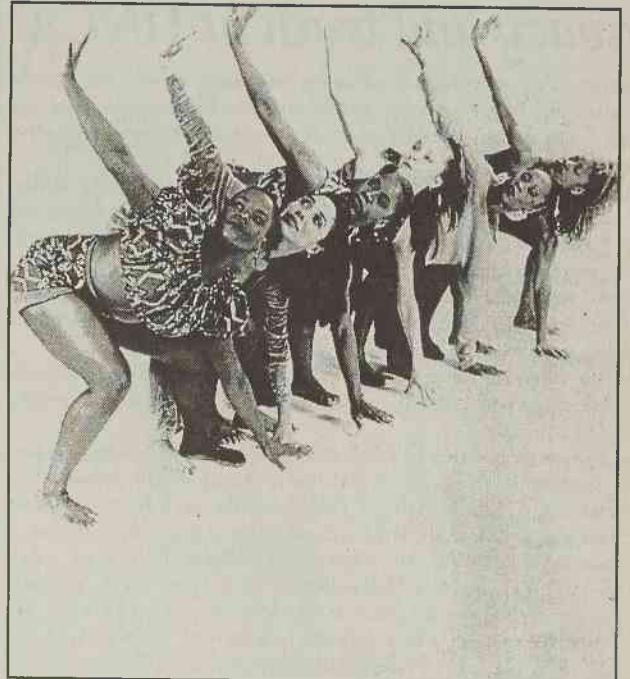


PHOTO BY DEBORAH BOARDMAN

Philadanco, Philadelphia's modern dance company, will perform at the Diana Wortham Theatre on Feb. 25. See story on page 4.

Book co-op attempts to save students money

By Chane Simpson
Staff Writer

In response to retail prices on text books, a group of UNCA students took matters into their own hands this semester, and the results could likely mark a long-term change in the way books are bought and sold on campus.

"You go to any college book store and their prices are going to be just like our prices," Student Government Association President Sergio Mariaca said. "College books are expensive anywhere."

"Fortunately, a lot of schools have co-ops that save students money."

It was last year that Mariaca and Tiffany Drummond, president of UNCA's delegation to the N.C. Student Legislature, began discussing the possibility of their respective organizations creating a student book co-op. The idea was to design a system in which stu-

dents could sell used books to each other rather than the bookstore.

This would not only create a centralized resource of books, Mariaca and Drummond said, but it would also allow students to buy those same books at a cheaper price.

"Students are saving themselves money and helping each other out at the same time," Drummond said. "We're all bonding together against the bookstore."

Last summer Maria went to Asheville-Buncombe Technical College to examine its management club's existing book co-op. Organizers with A-B Tech's co-op allowed Mariaca to copy their cash-handling system and operating procedures.

Here's how it works: Students bring in books they want to sell, fill out administrative contracts

with the co-op, and list their desired price inside the front cover.

The book is then placed with others and classified by subjects so that prospective buyers can browse through the stacks.

When a purchase is made, the co-op creates record of the transaction and places money into a

book store manager Mike Small for his role in helping students establish the co-op.

Though it caused direct competition in the same building, Small helped co-op organizers by providing them with information on which specific books teachers planned to use this semester.

"The bottom line is the benefit to students, whether it's something the bookstore does or the co-op," Small said. "Text books are costly. We can't do much about that fact. But I do see this co-op as one way to make used books cheaper."

Initially, Drummond said, many students were confused about the way the co-op worked and expected money for their books up front, the way wholesalers pay when they buy used books. By

the end, however, people began to realize how the system worked.

"It took people a little while to understand it," Drummond said. "We referred to it as a consignment shop so that people would begin to understand that they are not selling their books to us. They're selling them to other people."

In this first semester, Drummond and Mariaca said that "several hundred" commuters and residents participated in the co-op with about \$2,500 changing hands between students. Although organizers admit the program has not impacted the overall student population yet, they readily embrace the prospect of a new permanent co-op on campus.

"The book co-op saves people money and takes the hassle out of it," Mariaca said. "We hope the mind-frame is for students to think about the co-op first, and then go to the bookstore."

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"Textbooks are costly. We can't do much about that fact. But I do see this co-op as one way to make used books cheaper."

Mike Small, bookstore manager

special university account. At the end of the book sale period, generally a week or two into the beginning of the semester, co-op organizers mail checks to students for the books that sold. The co-op keeps 15 percent of sales money to serve as a fund-raiser for the organizations staffing the co-op.

Both Drummond and Mariaca

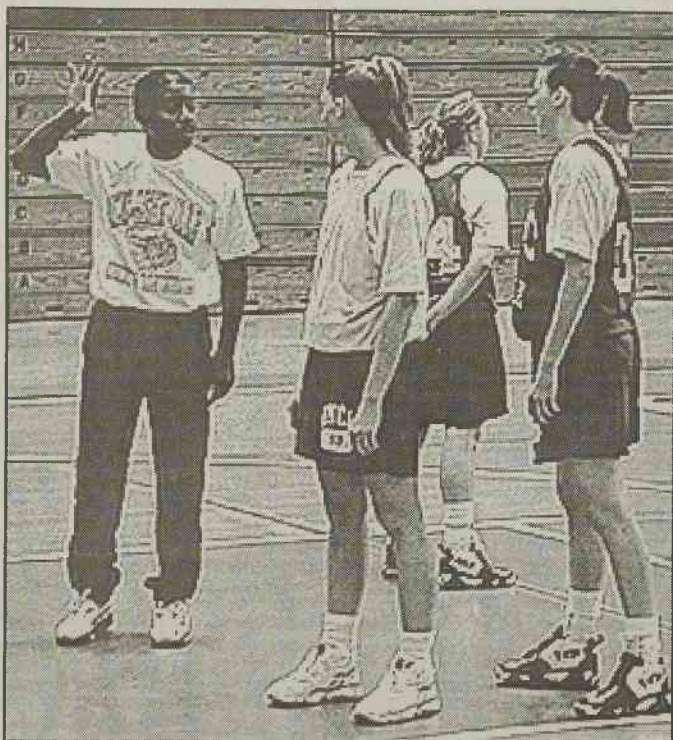


PHOTO BY MICHAEL TAYLOR

Coach Ray Ingram (left) is seen here coaching members of the 1995-96 women's basketball team.

Women's coach suspended

By Jennifer Thurston
Managing Editor

Ray Ingram, UNCA's head women's basketball coach, was suspended until further notice on Feb. 17, according to Merianne Epstein, director of public information. State law prevents the university from revealing the reason for the suspension.

However, the *Asheville Citizen-Times* reported on Feb. 19 that two university sources said the suspension arose from a disagreement between Ingram and one of his players.

When asked whether a charge of sexual harassment stemmed from the disagreement, Epstein said, "The law is so clear we have no choice about not being able to release personnel matters. The law does not allow you to confirm a charge of sexual harassment or deny one."

Chancellor Patsy Reed made the final decision about Ingram's suspension, Epstein said.

Two assistant coaches are taking over Ingram's responsibilities in his absence. Basketball practice was closed yesterday and a *Banner* reporter was asked to leave the practice area.

The campus public safety department was notified of the suspension on Feb. 17 as part of normal university procedures. On Feb. 18, a campus officer escorted Ingram from his office to his car without incident, said Public Safety Officer Bruce Martin.

Ingram is not allowed to return to the university while the suspension is in effect. No reason for the suspension was given to campus security other than personnel matters, Martin said.

The personnel files of state employees are closed under N.C. state statute 126-22. Only the employee, the employee's supervisor, the General Assembly, or an official of the federal government can access the files without a court order.

Kevin Davis, a senior majoring in economics and history, agreed with

the intentions of the statute. "For privacy's sake I can understand (the law) when it's for something such as this," Davis said. "In this case with Coach Ingram, I think a privacy statute is a good thing. If you put yourself in that situation, privacy is the best way to go."

Kenya Smith, a freshman biology student, disagreed. "We're students of this campus and support the university and we should know what's going on," Smith said. "They control what we know and don't know, even what's going on right under our noses."

All calls to the athletics department regarding the suspension were referred directly to Epstein.

Members of the women's basketball team were contacted and declined to comment.

Ingram could not be reached for comment.

Chane Simpson, Kyle S. Phipps, and Michael Taylor contributed to this report.