

Features

Ingles: The remodeling goes on and on



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columnist

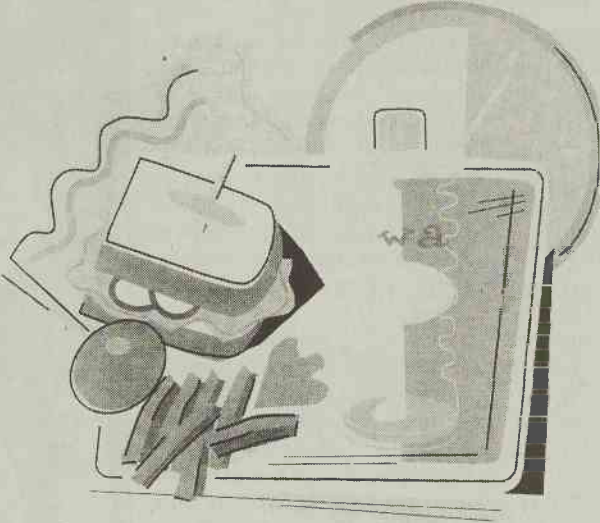
Ingles is on a mission from God. If he achieves it, it is to re-define his already top-of-the-line Merrimon Avenue Ingles, and turn it into the perfect grocery store, the Taj Mahal of supermarkets, the Taj Mahal of Teeter, if you will, of Ingles. I am quite sure what I think of this store. I first started living on my own in the 24-hour Merrimon Ingles. I came to something of a second home for me. I have a lot of happy memories from this particular store. When I was bored, I'd go to their stimulating Reading Center for the latest issues of such magazines as "Big Guns Weekly," "Half-Naked Men with Big Guns and Fast Cars

weddings, funerals, Kwanzaa. The floral department delivered. The bakery was there for all of my most special occasions, always eager to illegibly script names on cakes with pastel pink frosting. The seafood department provided me crablegs in times of trouble. And for general hunger, I'd wander up and down the aisles and end up with a healthy, well-planned meal, consisting of items such as those little canned mandarin orange slices and Cheez Whiz. Actually, that's another subject entirely. Never, ever go to a grocery store when you are hungry, because everything looks delicious, including the rainbow gelatin cakes in the Clearance Deli section. So why tamper with perfection? When Bobo, my friend, stock boy, and late-night cashier first told me about the planned remodeling, I was aghast. He informed me that the store would be closing early for the next several months, and I was devastated.

Where would I hang out? Where could I go at two in the morning to hear the muzak version of "Whole Lotta Love?" Who would cater to my cravings for tater tots at wee hours of the morning? One of the only redeeming features of North Asheville nightlife is this 24-hour-a-day mecca. Other college towns have bars that stay open past 11:30 p.m. Asheville has a great grocery store. Fortunately, they decided not to close the store nightly, even when they were tearing up the floor with machines that made sounds of airplane-level decibels, or fumigating the place with seemingly lethal chemicals. A consistent practice that does upset the daily balance of my life is their once a week closing at 11:00 p.m., allegedly to wax the floors. I think this may be a clever ruse to allow the stock boys a weekly pajama party, because I've never witnessed the actual "waxing." During the closing, I drive by slowly right up near the doors, peek through the glass, and see nothing. I'll drive by again, in case someone saw me drive

by the first time and decided to open the store up for just a minute so I can purchase my much-needed frozen potato products. I'll drive by yet again...well, you know. I think what's really going on is the stock boys are sitting in the back of the store giggling, playing Truth or Dare, and of various sorts. Amidst the black beans and fajita seasoning, you can now find Immaculate Heart of Mary candles. My burrito dinners gain a holy new dimension as I eat by the soft light of the Virgin. The Mary candle also gives special significance to the fervent prayers I say to myself as I choke on the excessive amounts of cheese provided by good Mexican food. My personal favorite additions are the splashy new racks in the Reading Center. They're mirrored, very futuristic. Now when I read my issue of "Half-Naked Men Who Own Lots of Cows and Big Guns and Fast Trucks," I can actually witness the look of sheer delight that crosses my face as I turn each fabulous page. I have noticed a couple of significant problems, however. The produce racks are entirely evil. I guess someone decided that the old produce bins were too horizontal, and didn't allow enough apples to roll out onto the floor. The new bins are designed so that if the perfect orange is in the middle of the fruit arrangement, you choose it and all the other oranges fall onto the

allegedly newly-waxed floor. This discourages people from buying produce, because once they pick that orange, they're forced to run away and hide behind the salad dressings to avoid being incriminated. They also replaced the much-famed wine kiosk with a new, elaborate wine labyrinth. I think this was a mistake. The previous system worked: outside the pavilion you could find your better-quality, higher-priced wines, inside they stocked beverages for those with a slightly looser definition of "wine": Hawaiian Blue Mad Dog, Thunderbird malt liquor, and chillable red wine-in-a-box. Yes, you should be duly frightened when you see the phrase "chillable red wine," and yes, it tastes exactly as awful as it sounds. Anyway, the new wine labyrinth is scary and less efficient, and can cause claustrophobic panic attacks, whereas the old pavilion was breezy, airy, and accessible. The really mystifying thing about all this remodeling is that some Ingles stores don't seem to have had so much as a facelift since 1975. The location on Tunnel Road still has narrow aisles, a tiny produce section, and an abrasive red and yellow decor. The Ingles in Fairview doesn't seem to have been touched either. Why are they renovating an already comparatively grand store, and ignoring many of the other locations? This is a question to ponder when you venture inside those automatic glass doors late at night to wander the aisles and satisfy your soul.



FYI
For Your Information

february 26 thru march 5

UNCA
FYI is a service of the Student Activities and Student Affairs offices.

FYI is published each Thursday. Deadline to submit information is Friday at noon, for the following week's publication. Next deadline: February 27. Send a copy with basic information to The Banner, c/o Ad Manager, CH 208A or S. McDonald, HC 27.

academic notices

- Undergraduate Research - Summer Research Grant Proposals deadline, KH 126 (x6122) • 2/27

african american heritage month

- Minority Career Fair, 12-2pm, HC Lounge (x6671) • 2/26
- Film: "Ghosts of Mississippi", 6pm, HC Lounge • 2/28

athletics

- Womens Basketball vs. Coastal Carolina, 6pm, Lynchburg, Va., Big South Tournament • 2/26
- Men's Basketball vs. Liberty or Coastal Carolina, 6pm, Lynchburg, Va., Big South Tournament • 2/27
- Men's & Women's Tennis vs. High Point, 3pm, JG Courts • 2/27
- Baseball vs. ASU, 3pm, GF • 3/5

career opportunities/jobs

- Resume Review - appointments available, 1-4pm, Mon., Tues., Thurs., WHC 101 or email nwhite@bulldog
- WNC Consortium Job Fair, Grove Park Inn (4/14) - see Career Center homepage for registered employers - update weekly

concerts/live entertainment

- Open Mic Nite - "Headwaters", 7:30-9:30pm, KH Laurel Forum (spon. by Creative Arts Magazine) • 2/26
- Woodwind Quintet, 4pm, LH 018 (x6432) • 3/1
- Open Mike sign ups in UP office, HC 44, performance, 9pm, HC Lounge • 3/4

etc.

- Family Friendly Week: B.C. Child Development Information Table, 11am-1pm, RBH Lobby • 2/26
- Study Break with Karaoke, 9pm, HC Lounge (x6700) • 3/3
- Child Care Surveys - fill out & drop one in RL, DH, RBH, HC

exhibits

- Brit Small - Oie Exhibition "Pieces of a Puzzle" (reception - 6:30-8:30pm • 2/26) Univ. Gallery, OH • 2/27-3/17
- Alumni Art Exhibit, Ramsey Library (x6336) • thru 2/28
- UNCA Art Majors Exhibition, Asheville Gallery of Art, 16 College St. (x6875) • thru 2/28
- Michael Youngblood Exhibition, reception, 2nd floor gallery, OH • 2/27-3/18

films

- "Ghosts of Mississippi", 6pm, HC Lounge • 2/28

leadership opportunities

- Resident Assistant Application available now in Housing Office • due 3/24
- SGA Elections - pick up applications for positions in HC 39 (x7178) • due noon, 2/27

stress management with Dr. Keith Ray, 5-6pm, PDR (Dinner provided - sign up in HC 48) (x6588) • 3/4

Resource Center/Leadership Library - outside HC 37

lectures/workshops/seminars

- "Human Rights in Nigeria & the Environmental Degradation in Ogoni Land" Africana Studies Round Table, 5-6:30pm, RL 11 (x6626) • 2/26
- "Last Lecture Series" - Nina East, 12:15pm, HC 018 • 3/2
- "Last Lecture Series" - Dr. Dwight Mullen, 7:30pm, HC Lounge • 3/2
- Spanish Table - Liliana Castro, guest speaker (opportunities for students to interpret) Noon • 3/4
- "Wise Women, Wild Women: Archetypes of the Feminine", 3 month course - 1st & 3rd Tuesdays of March, April, May, 6-8pm (\$75 UNCA students - see Nina East for scholarship) (x6670) • 3/3-5/19
- "Cuba: Time to Rethink U.S. Strategy?" by Linda Cornett, 7:30pm, OCC • 3/2
- "Jerusalem: Holy Space/ Unholy Times" by Walter Ziffer, 7pm, OCC • 3/3

organizations/special programs

- "The Human Quest" - Dialogue & Discussion by Christians & Bahai's, 7:30pm, HC Lounge (spon. by Baha'i & Christian Ministries) • 2/26
- Rock-a-thon, 12-1pm, HC Plaza (donations to Helpmate) (spon. by Gamma Phi Beta) • 3/5-3/6
- "The Healing Force" - stimulate cultural awareness, community service, perf. arts, 7pm, HC Lounge (spon. by BSU, PCF, UMCM) (258-3817) • 3/5

outdoor activities (sign up in HC)

- Beginning Kayak classes, 7-9:40pm, Pool • Wednesdays
- Outer Banks - Spring Break Trip, \$175 includes most meals, equip., guides, travel & camp fee - sign up now • 3/14-3/21

tickets-discounts-hc27-10am to 4pm

- Charlotte Hornets- March games go on sale, (Feb. 28 game vs. Orlando Magic available) (x6584) • 3/2
- Movie tickets to local United Artists theatres - \$4 for students

women's history month-March

- "Riding a Harley, Reroofing a House ...", by Nina East, 12:15pm, PDR • 3/2
- Opening Celebration, 4-5pm, KH Laurel Forum • 3/2
- "Feminist Pedagogy - Not Just for Feminists Anymore" by Pamela Nickless & Leah Matthews, 12:15pm, HC 018 • 3/3
- An Evening of Women's Art, 7pm, KH Laurel Forum • 3/4
- "Beyond Suffrage -The Seneca Falls Convention, 12:15pm, PDR by Pamela Nickless & Tracey Rizzo • 3/4
- Baha'i Perspective on Advancement of Women, 7pm, KH Laurel Forum • 3/4
- "Practicing Women's History", by students from History 355, 12:15pm, HC 018 • 3/5

volunteer opportunities

- Be a "Busytown Busybody" - help children ages 2-10 & their families enjoy the town created by author Richard Scarry at the Health Adventure, Pack Place • to volunteer, call 251-6588