

# News

## Drugs Continued From Page 1

continuation of a search and seizure policy which allows officers to enter dorm rooms without a search warrant or student consent.

Despite the rise in violations at ASU, the school's annual student drug survey showed an eight percent decrease in drug use.

Eric Iovacchini, UNCA vice chancellor for student affairs, said that UNCA has no intention of adopting a search and seizure policy similar to that of ASU.

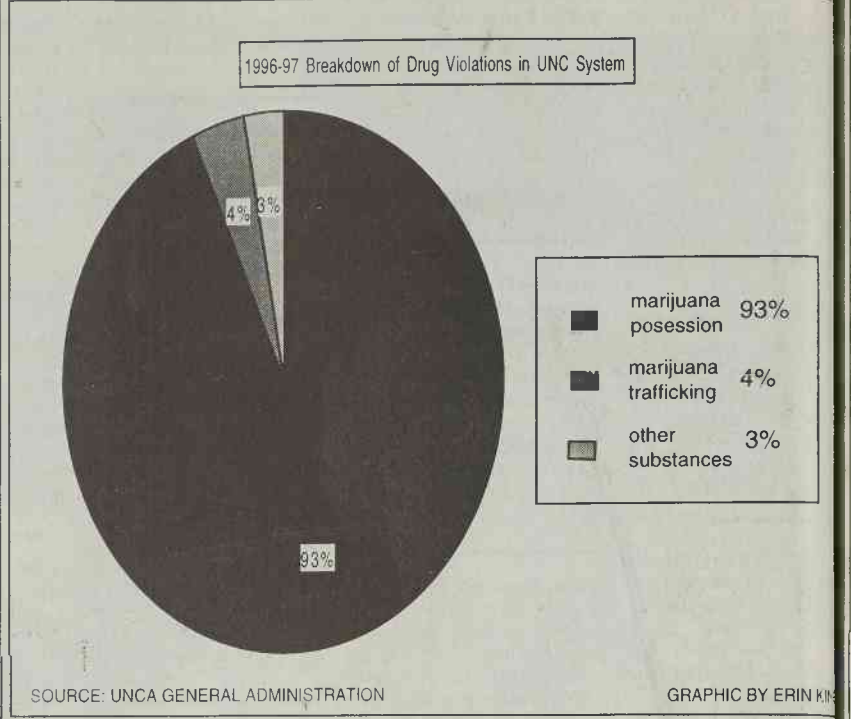
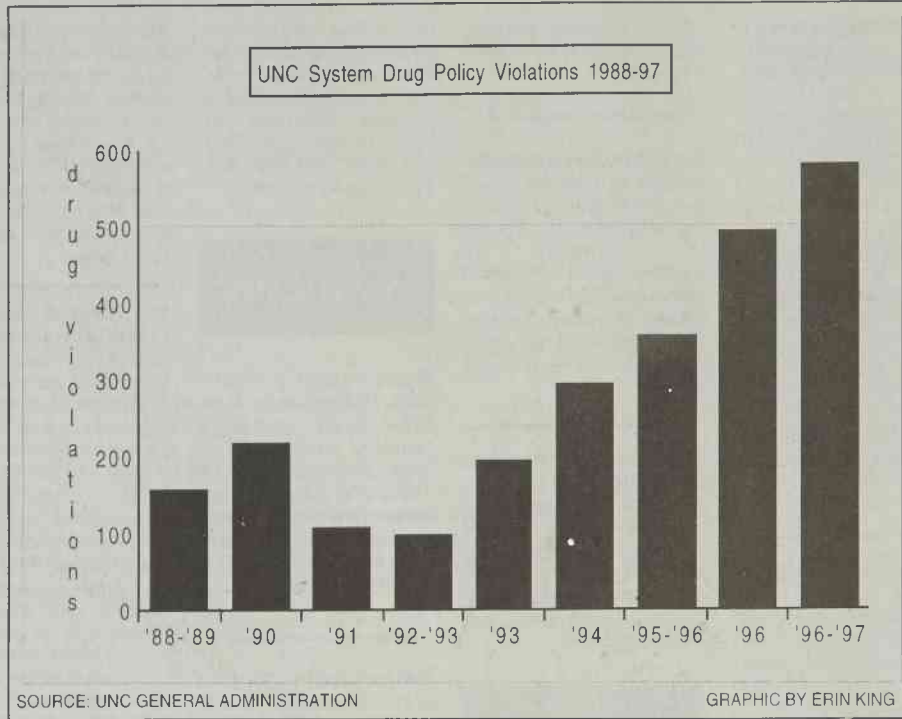
"Our students are adults," said Iovacchini. "I think their residence halls are their homes. We want to make sure that searching a student's room is a last resort."

Iovacchini said if a UNCA public safety officer suspects illegal drug activity in a dorm room, and the student does not allow the officer into the room, then that officer should obtain a search warrant.

"You have to balance the individual's right to privacy from unreasonable search and seizure with the institution's desire to control substance abuse," said Iovacchini. "We think that we can do more by doing educational activities in the classroom and outside the classroom than we can by doing searches of students' rooms."

Dennis Gregory, acting UNCA public safety director, said that searching dorm rooms for drugs without a search warrant may violate student's rights.

"I think it is very questionable as to whether or not you are violating



a student's constitutional rights. We certainly do not want to violate anyone's rights," Gregory said. "We have adults who are very responsible and we do not need that."

UNCA administrators do not feel that the school has a serious drug problem.

"We have had more arrests for minor possession this year than in the past, but still our numbers are going to be small," Iovacchini said. "I think our biggest abused substance is alcohol."

"I don't think we have a drug problem. We have drugs on campus, but I don't think we have a drug problem," said Gregory. "It is rare that we respond to a call that is a serious problem that is a product of drugs."

Gregory credits the quality of the student body, rather than policy and law enforcement, with UNCA's generally low number of drug violations.

"I think we have a very unique blend of students, and high drug

usage is not part of the environment of the students that are recruited at UNCA," Gregory said. "We have a wonderful group of students that come here for the purpose of getting an education."

According to Vicki Brunnick, counselor and substance abuse consultant at UNCA, education has helped to keep the number of drug violations at UNCA to a minimum. "UNCA has put forth a really good effort on prevention," said Brunnick.

UNCA's 1996-97 report on illegal drugs cited the Student Assistance Program (SAP) as the "most effective in providing early intervention services to students sent through the judiciary system for alcohol/drug violations."

The report also said that "the number of repeat offenders has decreased since the adoption of this program."

UNCA public safety officers said that a decrease in repeat drug offenders has coincided with the

implementation of drug education programs at UNCA.

"We rarely deal with the same person twice for the same offense," said Public Safety Officer Jerry Adams.

Iovacchini and Gregory said that many reports of suspected substance abuse at UNCA come from other students.

Public Safety and the housing office are not necessarily looking for illegal drug activity, but other students bring it to their attention, said Iovacchini.

## Wreck closes main entrance



PHOTO BY PRESTON GANNAWAY

The main entrance to UNCA was closed over an hour on Feb. 19 due to a two car head-on collision. Frankie Darrell Johnson, driver of a 1989 Nissan Sentra, crossed over the center line of University Heights into the path of a 1996 Mazda Miata driven by Erwin Karson. Johnson, Karson, and Karson's wife Anne all sustained injuries in the wreck. They were later treated and released from Memorial Mission Hospital. Johnson was later charged with driving under the influence, on a suspended license, without proof of insurance, and left of the center line.

## Laptop Continued From Page 1

ing Kern Parker said that providing adequate access to computers is more important to the UNCA administration than requiring individual ownership.

"I think it is critical for a college student to have good access to computing and networking," Parker said.

Hooker said that the computer requirement will enhance the curriculum at UNC-CH.

"Students will be able to engage in online discussions in class, get responses from in-class poll taking, and take notes with the laptop computers," said Hooker.

Parker said that any decision to mandate ownership of computers needs to be curriculum driven.

"It doesn't make sense to mandate it unless the faculty uses computing and networking such that students could not function without it," Parker said.

Many students at UNC-CH voiced concern that the value of a computer depreciates quickly, and is not a good investment of student's money.

Hooker acknowledged that computers do lose re-sale value over four years, but said that UNC-CH students will benefit because they

will leave college with a computer that works.

"The computers will not have a value, but they will still be functional," said Hooker.

Hooker said that the repair services, as well as other financial aspects of this plan, will be partially underwritten by a \$4.6 million grant from the N.C. General Assembly.

Along with the financial aspects of the laptop requirement, Jackson worried that extended computer use could discourage or replace human interaction.

"I like interacting person to person," said Jackson. "I am afraid I might lose that."

Parker was also concerned about the social implication of the requirement. "I personally do not think we should take the infusion of technology to an extreme so as to lose our basis," said Parker.

"At UNCA, we meet in small classes and groups, and engage in dialogue. It is important for us not to lose personal contact. We need to be careful that we don't create a system that fractures our community," said Parker.

Hooker said that there is no evidence that computers has discouraged human interaction.

## UNCA Baha'i starts national movement

By Catharine Sutherland  
Contributing Writer

The efforts of UNCA's Baha'i Association to spark local action for the promotion of women have unexpectedly resulted in a national movement called "One Voice Week," which will take place this year on Mar. 2-6.

The city council of Berkeley, Calif. has even proclaimed one day of the week "One Voice Day" in celebration of the project, said senior literature major Eric Horton, secretary of the UNCA Baha'i Association.

A phone call to The National Committee for the Advancement of Women (NCAW) last semester started the string of national ac-

tion, Horton said. The NCAW liked the group's idea, and agreed to serve as the project's official sponsor.

The UNCA Baha'i Association did not plan the project to coincide with March's designation as National Women's History month, but the simultaneous eruption of events in celebration of women has "worked out conveniently," said Amy Desautels, senior fine arts major and member of the UNCA Baha'i Association.

The One Voice project aims to promote the advancement of women and raise the status of women in our society and around the world, Desautels said.

The One Voice project at UNCA will involve "A Night of Women in the Arts," which presents four women performers and an Open

Mic on March 3; a talk on "The Role of Women in the 21st Century from a Baha'i Perspective" on March 4; and a group meditation on March 6. All events will take

place at 7 p.m. in the Laurel Forum. Baha'i demonstrations and workshops promoting gender equality will take place at campuses nationwide.

### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH EVENT

"Showing the Pulpit"

A panel of 3 local United Methodist women ministers

--- lunch provided ---

When: Monday, March 9 at 12:15 pm

Where: Owen Conference Center sponsored by UMCM

\*can be used as a Humanities Cultural event\*

---Free---

Homecoming '98 would like to thank the following people, without their help it would not have been such a success!

Bunny, Student Government Association, African American Student Association, Alpha Phi Omega, Cultural and Special Events Committee, Parents' Assn., Alumni Assn., Alumni Relations, Public Information, Sisters of Spirit in Service, Sigma Nu, Gamma Phi Beta, Baptist Student Union, Presbyterian Campus Fellowship, United Methodist Campus Ministries, Alpha Xi Delta, International Student Assn., Housing and Residence Life, Underdog Productions, Brothers United and Achieving, Student Activities, the UNCA "All-Stars" and coaches Maggie and George, Cheerleaders, Dance Team, Pep Band, All of the Parade Entries and Gary, Our parade judges, Panhellenic, Interfraternity Council, NCSL, Marriott Dining and their golf cart, Media Center, Athletics, Teaching Fellows, The Homecoming Committee, Facilities Management, Public Safety, The Interns of 48, Dave Torbett, Eric Larsen, Yonnie Klein, and Everyone that works in Highsmith Center!

Thanks again!

Shelly and J.P.