

# OPINIONS

## An effort to 'save the village people'



Jennifer Dorich  
Columnist

As a concerned member of the UNCA community, it is my duty to warn my fellow students of an impending threat to their freedom, well-being, and sanity.

During October, a violent coup took place in the Governors' Village, orchestrated by an oligarchic regime known to us only by the name "American Southern."

American indeed! This extreme band of terrorists has forced countless sufferings on the helpless people of our small village community.

Each morning, regime leaders gather troops and put their war machines to work. With these machines, they create new, random patterns of walls, fences and moats. Obviously, this is part of their plot to confuse us into submission.

Have you any idea what it is like living within a labyrinth that changes on a daily basis? Why, sometimes I practically expect to meet a minotaur on my way to class!

Clearly, these insane fundamentalists are trying to turn back our cultural progress. Labyrinths, moats

— soon we will all be vassals to these feudal lords.

And what of the complete segregation of Ashe and Hoey halls? As of late, there have been no documented cases of Ashe or Hoey villagers infected with either anthrax or the bubonic plague, yet they placed a moat before the entrance to our buildings to seclude us.

Now, they've gone so far as to separate us from the rest of our village by means of a great orange wall.

I, for one, have had quite enough of this totalitarian regime dictating our paths and separating friends and families.

I am tired of crossing an unsteady footbridge to travel from one village building to another.

Of course, we villagers are accustomed to a relatively poor standard of living compared to the rest of the campus. Often, we do without hot water, electricity, and properly functioning indoor plumbing.

We patiently weather the heat of summer without the benefit of climate control. There comes a time

when enough is enough.

The constant destruction caused by this careless regime may eventually lead to the loss of suitable habitat for hundreds of village people.

Please don't just stand by while such atrocities go unpunished. If we hope to succeed, we will need the help of many brave freedom fighters.

We will also require the generous financial contributions of villagers and sympathizers. Every little bit helps. You may send checks, money orders, cash, credit cards or jewelry to: Save the Village People, 204 HOH, UNC-Asheville.

We aren't certain how we will combat this threat. It is our hope that, depending on the benevolence of our donors, we might even be able to hire a military strategist to plot our retaliation.

Be assured, I will not rest (except for about six hours a night with an occasional nap during the day) until these autocrats have been stripped of their power to torment and ter-

rorize. However, while the evil ones are in control, I will offer a few safety tips for traveling through the village:

1) Do not let small children or friends of short stature travel alone.

Should they happen to slip and fall into one of the moats, they may never be seen again. They may also be eaten by the minotaur.

2) Do not feed the moat creatures; not even the cute ones. They will become large, outgrow the moats, and take up residence in our bathtubs.

3) If you venture to Ashe or Hoey halls, be sure to have all your vaccinations.

Since they've already quarantined us, it's possible that they're planning to infect us and see what happens.

4) As always, beware of the "Rotations of Unusual Size."

I hope everyone living or traveling within this shattered region will take care, and the community will continue to be supportive of the poor villagers in their time of need.

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## Editorials

### Administrative nonsense

One of the strengths of UNCA is that student input is actually valued by the administrative people around campus.

We have our nice little surveys they give us after every semester, so we can feel like we have had some chance to voice the weaknesses of any professors or classes we find wanting.

Unfortunately, there is no system in place where we can readily voice those opinions about the administrative staff that seem to revel in passing the buck when it comes to having to do work to solve problems.

There are hundreds of outstanding administrative employees here at UNCA. However, it often seems that any time something needs to be done, the phrase of the day is "I wish I could help you with that."

God forbid anyone should ever have to buy a copy-card in Ramsey Library with anything other than exact change. Copy services seems to be a brand new office simply for the purpose of pointing out the copy-card machine across the room.

It is next to impossible to get money owed to you by the school on any day other than the one day a month they fire up the check machine.

One would think, with all the computers and machines we pay for, there would be some provision to have some kind of paper substance and a pen for emergency cases.

No one seems to claim responsibility for any of the obstacles that keep anything from ever being done.

This school always talks about improvements on a grand scale. It always seems some building on campus is in the process of renovation or replacement.

At some point we should look at fixing the human infrastructure within those buildings instead of replacing cinderblocks.

Much of the problems of the administrative regime are rooted in the bureaucracy of the paperwork. When someone says, "I wish I could help you with that," they obviously mean what they say.

However, the problems of the bureaucracy are still a creation of the administration, and someone should try to help somewhere along the line.

There should be some course of action open to students to voice their opinions about the shortfalls of the administration that exists to provide services for us.

### Staff member of the week

Congratulations to Rae Stephens of the news department, *The Blue Banner's* Staff Member of the Week.

### An uneven playing field

Is there an unlevel playing field in the UNCA intramural sports program? While most students tend to agree that having intramural sports is great for the school because it allows students, faculty and staff alike to exercise, be competitive and have fun, several students have voiced their disappointment in the way the program is conducted.

Some of these complaints stem from questionable bias of certain teams that compete in the intramural games with an unfair advantage. This begs the question of who should be eligible to participate in intramural sports.

According to the UNCA recreation department guidelines, the rule for intramural eligibility is you must be a student, faculty or staff member at UNCA. The problem with this rule is the UNCA recreation department's definition of a "student."

A few students in the past, as well as current ones, now have voiced their displeasure with students who organize intramural teams with UNCA graduates or other talented athletes who are not full-time students, but still register for one three-hour class in order to be eligible for the team. Class attendance is not even required.

This is mostly prevalent in intramural flag-football and basketball, due to the fact that the winner of those sports get the chance to compete in regional intramural competition in Chapel Hill or Wilmington.

If this is truly the case, that certain teams are picking up ringers just to earn a trip to regional competition, are these teams not cheating actual full-time students out of an opportunity to win?

The second complaint is an even louder one from participants. Many conflicts of interest have occurred in the officiating of intramural games. It is not uncommon for a fraternity member to officiate games played by his own fraternity.

Not unlike this phenomenon, it has been the case before to have a girlfriend keeping score for her boyfriend's game.

All too often, the balance has been tipped in the favor of the Greek organizations when it comes to the scheduling of intramural games. Many non-Greek intramural sports teams have had to bend over backwards, even at the last minute, to appease the Greek schedule.

A solution to this could be to make a better effort of advertising intramural sports council meetings, so concerned students can voice their complaints.

Even though intramural sports are supposed to be fun, there is no reason why they should not be fair.

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