

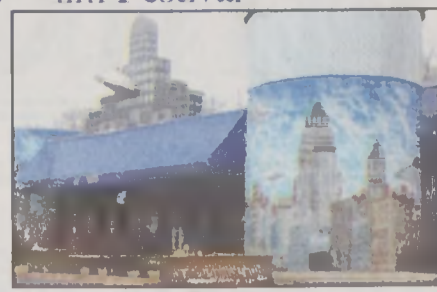
Holiday Weight



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## Greek life members face possible identity theft

By Rebecca Taylor  
ASSISTANT EDITOR

Concerns about national security hit close to home as UNCA Greek life members discovered an e-mail sent last week that placed them all at risk for identity theft. Each semester the fraternities and sororities on campus report each member's grades from the previous semester to the national Greek Life headquarters. An e-mail containing the Social Security numbers of 60 members of Greek Life went out to all five presidents of those organizations early this week, raising security

concerns for those individuals. "I'm sorry it happened. I hope our campus can learn from it and we can keep things like this from happening in the future," said Meg Dutnell, director of student activities and integrative learning. Dutnell said she received a phone call from a member of the fraternity Sigma Nu who told her that instead of sending a list of names to the presidents of the organizations, the Greek Life intern sent a list of Social Security numbers. "He asked me if I was aware that she had sent out Social Security

numbers, and I was not aware of that," Dutnell said. "I knew that I had asked her to send the rosters out but I was not aware that Social Security numbers had been sent." Mark Padilla, provost and vice chancellor of academic and student affairs, received a full report about the e-mail Tuesday morning. "All of the presidents of the Greek organizations were immediately contacted and informed and have begun to follow the protocols for destroying the information," Padilla said. "We had a staff meeting in student affairs to address the situation." Members of the fraternities and

sororities expressed some anger at discovering the exposure contained in the e-mail, according to Scott Sherman, a senior psychology student and a member of Sigma Nu. "A lot of people were really angry about this," Sherman said. "But only the leaders of the Greek system got the e-mail and only members of the Greek system were on the list." Even though a lot of students expressed concern about this e-mail, it was not circulated widely. "I have spoken to each organization initially except for Theta Chi, they have yet to call me back,"

Dutnell said. "All of the other organizations confirmed that they have not forwarded the message to anyone." Beginning in April, UNCA will follow a new system of identification for its students, called the banner system. Instead of using social security numbers, each student will be assigned a random number as their new student ID. "All of the applicants for 2006 are being put into banner, and in April the system will begin to convert current student identification numbers for continuing students," Padilla said.

## Student shot with husband in Thailand

By Lisa V. Gillespie  
ASSISTANT NEWS EDITOR

Self-proclaimed princess of an 18th century monarchy and UNCA student was shot last week with her husband during her ongoing outreach travels to Thailand.

"She knew there would be people who opposed what she was trying to do," said Linda Cornett, assistant professor of political science. "Those efforts might be feared by anyone. The U.S. barely has connections with Laos. If the monarchy could be restored, there would have been movements toward mobilization of Laos and the communist government would not exist. There would be an incentive. We have to look closely at the situation; there could be multiple sources of real threat."

Police found some leaflets about McRowan's royal lineage nearby. "Maybe a line could be traced, but it would be really tough to do that," said Kevin Hewison, professor of Asian studies at UNC-Chapel Hill. "The only acknowledged Lao royal families are those of Luang Prabang and Champassak. Prince Boun Oum of Champassak relinquished any claims to the throne of Laos, and King Savang Vatthana did the same for the Luang Prabang monarchy when he abdicated. This means that there is no real legal basis for any claims on the throne of Laos."

Several chat-room dispatches attributed to Phillip McRowan, also known as Anouvong Sethathirath IV, encouraged reform in his native Laos. Communism took over in 1975 when a Lao king from another bloodline left the throne. "Being openly and loudly critical of the Lao government in Laos would cause the government there to act against the critic, probably arresting them and then deporting them," Hewison said. "The government is not open to public political criticism by Lao or foreigners."

The couple also lobbied congressmen not to extend normalized trade rights to Laos, which the country received in 2004.

McRowan also attended another event where he confronted the Lao government over trade issues and suggested the communist regime share power, according to Smith.

"Contrary to some of the reporting coming out of Bangkok, he was very outspoken," said Phillip Smith, executive director of the Center for Public Policy Analysis. "He used different vehicles to get his message out."

Business interest often determine the politically-motivated killings in Thailand, according to Hewison.

"Such murders are usually carried out by hired gunmen, who often turn out to be police or military," Hewison said. "Some reporting suggests that it may have been police involved in this murder, which looks like a contract killing. I guess the question is who hired the gunman. Chances are that this will never be revealed

## Asking UNCA's new chancellor a question just got easier

By Jim Mackenzie  
STAFF WRITER

Chancellor Anne Ponder held the first student open hours session Friday, Jan. 20, allowing students direct access to the chancellor's office.

Visitors were only required to sign up in advance. The event was scheduled for one hour, from 1 to 2 p.m.

"Open hours will continue for as long as there is interest, according to Ponder.

"I was afraid no one would come," Ponder said. "If students find this valuable and come, I'll continue to do them. I thought today was very well attended. Everybody got at least a brief conversation with me."

Katie Morris, senior student, discussed UNCA's lack of ethnic diversity on campus and environmental education.

"UNCA's role is to take students and turn out these citizens who are educated in the liberal arts to see problems with the world, and have some motivation to go out and fix what's wrong," Morris said. "Environmental concerns are huge. Overpopulation is huge. It's going to be the problem of the future. I feel it's more important than some other general education requirements that we have."

During her first few months at UNCA, the chancellor searched for ideas regarding her accessibility on campus, according to Ponder. "I wanted to find a way that I would be more directly involved with the students," Ponder said. "I thought setting aside one hour every week while school was in session would serve this function."

The conversations with students were varied and rich and the turnout was good, according to Ponder.

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*It shouldn't be something that students go in there and always discuss school-related matters.*

TARIK GLEN  
SGA president

"I'm delighted with the depth of the conversations so far," Ponder said. "Since I'll be doing this every week, if we start a conversation and don't finish it, then they can come back."

Ponder, former president of Colby-Sawyer College had open office hours there.

Senior management student and Student Government Association president Tarik Glenn suggested that open hours was a good idea for UNCA as well.

"Start off a few times in her office, then probably change locations, whether it's the cafeteria, Highsmith, or The Laurel Forum, just to have a different setting than the administrative building," Glenn said.

Open hours can be used to acquaint yourself with the new chancellor, according to Glenn.

"It shouldn't be something that students go in there and always discuss school-related matters," Glenn said. "I don't think it should be that way. I think it should be getting to know your chancellor on any level that may be, whether it's about the football game last night or how it is living in Asheville."

"I think it's great that she's having these office hours," Glenn said. "It can be difficult for a chancellor to find the time to do that. A lot of chancellors aren't on campus a lot, or are too busy, but the fact



SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Chancellor Ponder sits down with students during her student open hours. These open hours give students the opportunity to discuss anything with Ponder. During the first open hours the lack of diversity issue on campus and the new curriculum intensives were a few topics discussed.

that our chancellor makes this effort, we should really take advantage of it."

The times and locations of these open hours will vary, according to Ponder.

"Some of these will be in my office," Ponder said. "I'll probably move around a little. I'll probably be in the dining hall. When the weather gets nice, I might try the courtyard."

The office hours will be posted a month at a time on the school's website, according to Ponder.

"In order to make it work well, it won't be at the same time every week," Ponder said. "If it conflicts with your class this week, look and see if it does next week."

Ponder said she appreciates open

communication and its results.

"What is distinctive about UNC Asheville in this system is that we strive for high levels of discourse," Ponder said. "I love good dialogue. I used to be a professor. I taught literature for a couple of decades."

Anna Creagh, junior literature student spoke to the chancellor about the new curriculum intensives.

"She seemed genuinely interested in my problem," Creagh said. "She didn't have immediate answers, but she told me to reschedule another meeting in the future."

Ponder said she enjoys the university environment and is interested in listening to student feed-

back.

"I love what happens in student's intellectual development," Ponder said. "I feel really privileged to participate. I'm always enthralled in what students are undertaking."

Some students said Ponder is fulfilling her role as chancellor. "This is exactly what chancellors should do," Morris said. "Taking the time to listen is really important. I'm glad that so many students showed up. I feel that we may have needed more time than we got."

Ponder said she understands the time constraints of the open office hours.

"If the open office hour isn't convenient, just make an appointment," Ponder said.

## UNCA's Craft Campus sees progress, begins new phase

By M.R. Vincent  
STAFF WRITER

On course for an operational date of August 2008, the development of UNCA's Craft Campus took a major step forward this month.

"We are now in the beginning of the design phase," said Dan Millsbaugh, sculpture professor and director of the Craft Campus. The first phase of pre-design focused on the architectural design, scientific planning and fundraising.

This new design period focuses on the schematic design of the Craft Campus, which journeys through several distinct phases before construction. Estimates place the design period as a 12 to 15 month venture which allows the architects to use workshops to gain feedback and refine the design.

Once open to students in August 2008, the Craft Campus will incorporate three distinct studios: Ceramics, metal and wood, a

fourth planned glass studio as of yet does not have a date set for its opening.

"Glass will be in the future," Millsbaugh said.

Appalachian State University published findings in 2000 stating the development and sale of crafts contribute over 122 million dollars to Western North Carolina's economy. In the six years since the study came out, that figure looks modest. The craft economy is growing, according to Millsbaugh.

"We've had lots of students starting their own businesses, going to work for other people as apprentices and artisans," Millsbaugh said.

Some students have expressed concern over the Craft Campus's distance from UNCA's main campus. However, Millsbaugh assures that the new 'green' facilities are not that far away.

"Eight minutes driving time," he said. "I've timed it, many times."

Millsbaugh also said the university will have to plan for a trans-

portation system for those unable to make the commute on their own.

The project revolves around a space of about 150 acres located beside a capped landfill near Woodfin.

Buncombe County Commissioners approved the lease of this land to UNCA for \$1 a year for the next 50 years and the option to renew the lease for an additional 50 years in 2005.

The Energy Xchange, a craft residency program in Yancey County, serves as a model for UNCA's Craft Campus. The Energy Xchange is also located next to a landfill, and the methane gas produced by the landfill powers its kilns.

A landfill naturally produces greenhouse gases. As the garbage decomposes, it produces the landfill gas which is composed of approximately 50 percent methane gas, 50 percent carbon dioxide and

SEE CRAFT PAGE 10

## Campus Crime

By Kristen Marshall  
STAFF WRITER

While doing routine safety check of dorm rooms during winter break, UNCA Housing staff found drug paraphernalia in a room Dec. 10 and notified Campus Police.

Officer Dennis Thompson observed the evidence in plain view and confiscated it.

Officers issued a state citation to Louise Mackie for possession of marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Campus Police were notified by reports of three vehicles parked on Ridge Drive with slashed tires.

Officer David Shelton interviewed Wesley Campbell, 24, and found him responsible for cutting the tires with a knife.

Campbell agreed to pay for the damages, which came to more than \$1,400. Campus Police referred his case to the Office of Student Conduct for on-campus sanctions.

Campus Police responded to a call in

Westridge on Jan. 19 about an intoxicated student.

Williams and Green proceeded to the dorm room and found the student unconscious. After trying to unsuccessfully rouse the student, Williams requested an ambulance at the location.

Paramedics transported him to the Mission Hospital Emergency Room for treatment.

Officers issued Petter Mills with a state citation for under age possession of alcohol.

Officers David Shelton charged Gary Richard Allen Carr, 25, on Dec. 21 with possession of cocaine, carrying a concealed weapon and an expired registration.

Officers found a large knife beside the seat during a traffic stop.

Upon further inspection, the officers found cigarette boxes containing cocaine.

Carr admitted it was cocaine and a field test showed positive.

SEE THAILAND PAGE 10