

# The BLUE BANNER

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## The News in Brief

By Kristen Marshall  
NEWS EDITOR

### County to end unnecessary euthanization

Buncombe County initiated a new plan on Wednesday to stop euthanizing all healthy animals in county shelters, according to Asheville Humane Society officials.

Shelters will start to offer discounts on spaying and neutering to reduce reproduction rates among pets and strays.

The plan, called "Countdown to Zero," hopes to end all unnecessary euthanization by 2012 and includes the efforts of Buncombe County, Humane Alliance, Animal Compassion Network, Mimi Paige Foundation, Asheville Humane Society and Asheville Animal Services.

### Supremacist under fire for racist column

Columnist Kenneth Eng, a self-proclaimed "Asian Supremacist," found himself in hot water last week when AsianWeek published his column titled "Why I Hate Blacks," according to AsianWeek officials.

AsianWeek issued several apologies in regards to his column, which called blacks the weakest race, referring to their 300-year enslavement, according to reports.

Many activists and groups are calling for AsianWeek, a San Francisco-based publication, to cease contact with Eng and to present an apology and an editorial denouncing Eng's racism.

AsianWeek is currently planning a news conference with NAACP leaders and city officials to discuss the underlying racial tension between Asians and blacks in the San Francisco community.

### Study says, 'Put down that mirror'

According to a new study out of San Diego State University, college students are more narcissistic and self-centered than ever before.

Psychologists in charge of the study said phrases like "you're special" fuel students' egos and perpetuate the narcissism, according to a report.

This particular study, referred to the Narcissistic Personality Inventory, is the largest of its kind, according to the leading researchers. It is a standardized inventory and asks for responses to such statements like "If I ruled the world, it would be a better place" and "I think I am a special person," according to officials from the university.

Professor Jean Twenge, lead author of the study, cited current technology, like Myspace and YouTube, as a potential reason for the results, saying students use the programs to gain attention from their peers.

Even students involved in volunteer work were met with skepticism by the study, which cited the fact that college applications will sparkle with a list of such activities as one of the only reasons for volunteering.

## They could go all the way

Bulldogs upset fourth-ranked Coastal Carolina in Big South Tourney, stretching winning streak to four

By Devon Dow  
STAFF WRITER

The men's basketball team continued their winning ways on the road, upsetting fourth-ranked Coastal Carolina (15-15, 7-7 BSC), 77-64, in the first round of the Big South Tournament on Tuesday night, after defeating Coastal Carolina and Charleston Southern last week.

"In the past four games, we have been clicking on all cylinders," said junior guard K.J. Garland. "We have been on a roll in the state of South Carolina recently, and we would like to keep that trend going into our next game against Winthrop."

### The Big Win

The win in Conway, South Carolina gives the Bulldogs (12-18, 6-8 BSC) their third straight road victory.

"I am pleased with the performance of our players," said Head Coach Eddie Biedenbach. "I have been pleased with their performance on the court, especially their play defensively."

Garland led the team in scoring with 19 points and seven assists while 7-7 sophomore center Kenny George completed the game a perfect 6-for-6 from the field, and recording his first double-double, scoring 12 points and grabbing 10 rebounds along with four blocked shots.

"Helping our team get better and win games is all that I care about," said George. "Statistically, I had a great game, but if you look at the game as a whole, the entire team helped us win this game. We dominated the boards and played aggressive defense."

The high scoring Bulldog bench made the difference yet again as they outscored the Chanticleers, 27-7.

Along with George's 12 points, sophomore guard Reid Augst scored eight and junior forward Brett Warner contributed six.

"We have accomplished our first goal winning this first game of the



CLINT LATHINGHOUSE - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Junior guard Bryan Smithson drives off of a screen from Garrett Moles in the Bulldogs' second meeting with Winthrop earlier this season at the Justice Center. Smithson scored 16 points and dished out five assists in the Bulldogs opening round win over Coastal Carolina. The Bulldogs face the Eagles on Thursday at the Winthrop Coliseum for the semifinals. The Eagles defeated the Bulldogs 61-42 and 88-69 this season.

tournament," Biedenbach said. "We started out slow in the beginning of the season, but we turned it up at the end of the season and this is a better time than any to be on a winning streak."

With two more road victories in the Big South Tournament, the Bulldogs would have an automatic bid to the NCAA tournament for the first time since the 2003 season.

On Thursday, the Bulldogs face No. 1 Winthrop (26-4, 14-0 BSC), who beat the Bulldogs twice this season, 61-42 and 88-69, and is undefeated in conference play.

"We understand that to make it out of the Big South Tournament we will have to get some big road wins. The NCAA tournament is every team's goal for their season, we are no different," said Biedenbach.

### The Road to the Tournament

After defeating Radford (8-22, 3-11 BSC) at home, the Bulldogs faced Coastal Carolina on the road last Thursday. The Bulldogs shot 77 percent from the floor in the second half, leading them over fourth ranked Chanticleers.

Junior guard KJ Garland led the team with 18 points while four other players on the team scored in the double figures. The Chanticleers were led in scoring by forward Moses Sonko with 27 points.

"That was definitely a big win for our team," Garland said. "We went in to the game confident and prepared to do what we needed to do to win. We had good efforts from all of our players and even though Sonko dropped 27 points on us, our team play is what stood

out to me, and it got us the victory."

George continued his impact for the Bulldogs, shooting 6-for-7 from the floor, finishing the game with 12 points, four rebounds, and three blocks.

"It was a needed win for us," said George. "I was just happy to be out on the court and help our team win this game. It is almost tournament time for us. This victory really will help position us better in the bracket."

This the Bulldog bench outscored Coastal 31-10. Sophomore Reid Augst led the bench attack, scoring 12.



Kenny George

"Bench scoring is a big deal for us," Augst said. "We have a lot of talent on our team and for us to be able to have the depth and come of the bench outscoring other teams benches says a lot about our team."

For the game, the Bulldogs went 6-for-9 from behind the arc, while the Chanticleers went only 6-for-20. Junior forward Vincent James went a perfect 2-for-2 from behind the arc, finishing the game with 15 points.

"Coastal was pulling from three-point land, but they were hitting," said James. "We took advantage of their poor shooting by being aggressive on the boards, and making better shot selections than they did."

The Bulldogs edged out Coastal

SEE BASKETBALL PAGE 9

## GIFT program keeps families fit

By Neal Brown  
STAFF WRITER

UNC Asheville students will participate in a seven-week program to promote healthy lifestyles in local families by getting them to eat better and exercise more.

"The main goal is really to fight the obesity epidemic one family at a time. It is also to help families foster a healthy lifestyle through increased physical activity," said Melissa Himelein, professor of psychology and creator of the program.

Getting Into Fitness Together occurs from March 13 to April 26, with meetings twice a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays from about 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. GIFT is open to families living in Buncombe County with children ages 7 to 12 years old, according to Himelein.

"The only criterion is that they have to want to make a change to improve fitness or lose weight within their family," Himelein said.

The program, which is in its final year, is funded by the Bremen Professorship, an award given to a faculty member in the social science department for a project in social relations, according to Himelein.

SEE GIFT PAGE 2



CLINT LATHINGHOUSE - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Students practice traditional African dance, a form of exercise mentors participating in the Getting Into Fitness Together program will utilize to help local families stay fit and healthy.

## No downsizing in UNC Asheville athletics future

By Annabelle Hardy  
STAFF WRITER

When school administrators at Birmingham-Southern College in Birmingham, Ala. realized their scholarship distribution included 116 full scholarships for athletes and only one full scholarship for academics, they decided something had to change, according to Josh Summerlind, Birmingham-Southern College alum- " " Birmingham-Southern College lost a significant number of its scholarship athletes. So many in fact, the school is not able to field teams in baseball or men's basketball in their last season as a Division I school, according to Birmingham-Southern College officials.

Leaders at the small private school decided in June to switch from their current NCAA Division I status to play Division III sports. The school, with an enrollment of about 1,300 students, struggled to maintain the \$6 million athletic program and the division switch was a way to reprioritize spending and academic goals, according to Summerlind.

"Almost twice as many students will be able to play sports now. What BSC did is about the love of the game and having students who are athletes, rather

than athletes who are students," Summerlind said.

But, according to Summerlind, the switch has its negative side as well.

Athletes whose schools leave Division I may transfer without a waiting period to a different Division I school, according to the NCAA rules. Since the announcement in June,

many athletes have transferred to Birmingham-Southern College. "A lot of people don't like athletes because they think we get more benefits for no reason and that's not true."

BRIDGET HOLLIDAY  
Volleyball Player

However, this fall the school will field a football team for the first time since 1939, and next year, the athletics' program will add track and field, cross country and women's lacrosse teams to their schedules, according to

SEE ATHLETICS PAGE 3