

## Pet of the Week

more aggressive, according to Friedman.

"We get a lot of pit bulls and pit bull mixes," said Friedman, who also names rottweilers and dobermans as common sights in animal shelters. "Those are the typical breeds that have a tendency to be possessive or loyal to an owner. It's easy for them to be trained into being protective and therefore vicious and aggressive toward people."

Irresponsible owners like Dino's contribute to this misconception, according to Friedman.

"Pit bulls definitely have a stigma that they are mean, unfriendly and hate other dogs," Friedman said. "But that's really not true of their breed."

Many urban legends regarding pit bulls exist, according to Understand-A-Bull, an informative pit bull Web site found at <http://www.understand-a-bull.com>. One myth is that pit bulls' jaws lock after a bite, making removal of the dog difficult. Another is that pit bulls' jaws shut with a higher pressure and greater force than other breeds, according to the Web site. The site lists scientific experiments which disprove both myths.

These misconceptions, along with irresponsible pit bull ownership, cause many states to approve legislation against owning pit bulls, according to Friedman.

"Because of the bad reputation a lot of states have put bans on even owning them," Friedman said. "We don't have any laws like that in North Carolina right now, which is good."

Many states passed bans against



SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

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*Not a lot of people want to adopt an 11-year-old dog. And he's a pit bull, so he's got two strikes against him. But he's been our favorite.*

GUINN FRIEDMAN  
assistant manager of  
Asheville Humane Society



SHANNA ARNEY - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dino, an 11-year-old pit bull has lived at the Humane Society for the past year. He was abused by his previous owner.

"The owner was finally charged in February for animal abuse and went to jail," Friedman said. "So we were really excited about that, too."

Despite his troubled past, Dino changed during his stay for the better, according to

Friedman.

"He's definitely learned a lot being here," Friedman said. "He picked up really quick. He had no manners at all when he first came here. You could barely walk him on a leash. Now he knows he has to be good to walk

on a leash."

Adopted animals like Dino, especially ones with negligent past owners, usually appreciate their new owners more because of their history, according to Friedman.

"I think Dino is going to try to be really, really good," Friedman said. "I think Dino definitely has really settled into his surroundings and just wants to go home and lay on the couch."

In addition to gaining manners, Dino also gained a few healthy pounds during his year-long stay, according to Friedman.

"He was skin and bones when he came in," Friedman said. "Now he's fat and chubby, and has gained muscle."

Though Dino packed on plenty of muscle to play around, he prefers to hang out around the house, according to Friedman.

"He's got a lot of energy now, but at the same time he really just wants to be a couch potato," Friedman said. "He would be good for the family who isn't that active. He's pretty old."

The shelter rarely offers older animals but made an exception with Dino, according to Friedman.

"Normally Dino would not have been made available because of his age," Friedman said. "We evaluate dogs based on the amount of space we have, their age and their temperament. Because of his age, he wouldn't normally be put up for adoption. But because he's been here for so long and everybody loves him so much we had to."

## Dancing

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lot of exercise during the class, many members of the women's basketball team use break dancing as a way to work out.

"The concept for one of our pieces is called b-ballin and it is a tribute to the women's basketball team," Adams said.

While many members of the class would describe their activities as "break dancing," Adams prefers to use the term "breakin."

"The word 'break dancing' is considered by pioneers of b-boying (another term for 'breakin') to be a symbol of the media manipulation of hip hop," said the 31-year-old dance instructor.

Although Adams said that 'breakin' is often a male dominated dance form, you would never be able to tell by watching his class. The class, which meets every Friday, is entirely made up of women.

"It's a b-girl class," said Adam Altenderfer, member of Hanaab Kru.

For Schrader, the class of women indicates UNC Asheville male students maintain a certain attitude about dance.

"I think in spite of the fact that b-boying started out as a guy thing, a lot of guys are afraid of dance," the instructor said.

According to the program director, who has been teaching at UNC Asheville for more than 20 years, this attitude is ridiculous.

"Despite the apparent liberalism of our students, the guys here are pretty conservative," Schrader said. "When guys do dance, they are assumed to be effeminate. This is stupid because, if nothing else, dance is a great way to meet girls."

## Green Games

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

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*Many people are unaware of the impact of their choices and the only way to create change is to educate them.*

SARAH SOLAKA  
sophomore environmental  
chemistry student



JESSICA BLYTHE - STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER  
Stickers were put on light switches all over campus, providing students a constant reminder to conserve.

exact right temperature; it's the bigger picture of fossil fuels and climate change."

Students should be more mindful of their environmental impact, according to Ryan Mayette, junior environmental studies and economics student.

"College students of today are going to be the leaders of tomorrow, so instilling good energy consumption habits, big or small, will have a great impact on the planet and the future," Mayette said.

Green Games serve as a persistent reminder of these habits, according to Mayette.

"As people get wrapped up in busy schedules, especially toward the end of the semester, things like environmentalism slip their minds," said Nick Ladd, environmental studies and philosophy student.

"Having the physical presence of these events and the general atmosphere of Greenfest helps bring that to the floor grounds."

Though some are passionate about environmental activism, Leigha Dickens, sophomore physics student and a co-chair of ASHE, said activists should be mindful of their approach.

"If people see you doing something just because it's the right thing to do, and for no reason other than that, they'll think harder on that action than if you try to breathe down their throats about how they ought to do it," Dickens said.

Some environmental activism goes overboard, but being environmentally conscious is

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*The UNC system is the largest customer for electricity out of the state government, so we have the opportunity to make a huge impact.*

NICK LADD  
environmental studies  
student

that, Asheville is extremely open and environmentally conscious."

Environmental studies Professor Christina Jones said students should set positive examples of environmental lifestyles to persuade others.

"The energy that supplies the UNCA campus comes primarily from coal-burning power plants," Jones said. "Burning coal greatly contributes to Asheville's air pollution problems, and mining coal is environmentally destructive as well."

The schools in the UNC system share an environmental responsibility, according to Ladd.

"The UNC system is the largest customer for electricity out of the state government, so we have the opportunity to make a huge impact in our local area and through our sister schools," Ladd said.

Ultimately, it comes down to individual responsibility, according to Solaka.

"Although UNCA is proud to be North Carolina's most energy-efficient state institution, there is always, always room to improve," Solaka said. "That comes down to individuals making responsible decisions."

ASHE meets Thursdays at 6:30 p.m. in Highsmith 104. For more tips on conserving energy, visit <http://orgs.unca.edu/ecology/greengames/tips.htm>.

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