

## Coonan Vetoes WUNF Organization Plans

by Ron Cappella

Articles of Organization for WUNF were presented to the Student Senate December 16 with the purpose of establishing the radio station as an independent body, rather than as the agency status it has held since early this year.

The Articles established officers of the station as well as corresponding duties and set up a system of choosing officers for the coming years. The Senate was presented a bill which would allocate \$.70 per student per term effective third term of this year. The Student Senate, by suspending the general rules by which it operates, passed the two bills. In a surprise move, however, SGA President Bill Coonan vetoed the bills.

This is the first time in the history of the UNC-A SGA that a President has vetoed a law passed by the Senate.

When Carl Ballard, Chief Engineer, of WUNF was asked how he viewed Coonan's actions, stated that Coonan wants complete control of all campus news media and that the veto

was for the purpose of continuing the present autocratic control of the radio station by the SGA. Mr. Ballard issued a warning that all campus news media are in danger of losing their freedom.

Ray Holden, Station Manager and David Anders, Programming Director, were also on hand to give their less inflammatory opinions. They stated that since both the RIDGERUNNER and WUNF were news media and the RIDGERUNNER receives money from the student body, then WUNF should as well.

When presented with the question that a comparison between the RIDGERUNNER and WUNF was unfair since the RIDGERUNNER presents news, editorials and articles of special interest whereas WUNF has so far only presented entertainment, Anders replied that WUNF can progress no further until two problems are overcome. They are the problems of stable income and a formal organization acceptable to the Federal Communications Commission.

Anders further commented that when these two problems are overcome, WUNF-M will be as good as WFBC-FM in signal reception and programming quality. Mr. Holden answered the question of what will happen if the radio station cannot overcome Coonan's veto in the Senate with a concise "no comment."

Anders, Holden and Ballard added that in the future there are many advantages to having a good campus radio station. Humanity lectures could be

broadcast for the students who missed them. Live Broadcasts of sports contests at other schools could be made direct to the UNC-A campus as well as in depth reporting of national and international news of interest to students.

President Bill Coonan, in an interview, gave the following reasons for the veto. At the presentation of the two bills to the Senate, the Senate did not have time to examine the bills in detail. Under the articles of Organization, the radio would be

self-perpetuating and would be a closed shop (not open to all students). A minority of students could capture the radio station and there was no editorial board to evaluate the fairness of the editorials made by the radio station.

Mr. Coonan also stated that the Articles of Organization were not in line with the original plans made up last year. When asked about the method used by the radio station to get the two bills passed, Mr. Coonan said the radio tried a "railroad job".



BULLDOGS STAND AT 10-2

ERSKINE ENDS BULLDOG WINNING STREAK

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## Saga Under Attack From All Sides Administration Claims Breach of Contract

by Bill Wiley

Recent student complaints concerning Saga, University food service and Administrative investigations have attracted campus attention.

Approximately a month ago, petitions appeared in the dorms which called for changes in the food plan and improvement of the food services of Saga.

In early December, the Administration called a meeting with Mr. Fred Burger, District Manager for Saga School Division in the Carolinas and Eastern Tennessee. The meeting was allegedly to clear up a controversy over the scheduling of "Steak Night" at Saga.

With the resumption of school after the holidays, the confusion has begun again. Meetings have been called for next week with Burger, John Spelman, Food Service Director at UNC-A and the new FSD who will take the position at least by the end of January provided Saga still retains the school contract. The meetings according to Chancellor Highsmith will be to determine whether the contracts can be worked out, if not, a new service will have to be arranged.

There have been mentions of breach of contract accusations against Saga from the Administration.

Spelman informed Saga in mid-December that he would be leaving the post and as Spelman

notes suddenly, all the fireworks began. The new Food Service Director is scheduled to take the post in mid-January when he arrives from Saga's training school in Portland, Oregon.

The original bone of contention seems to have been steak night which was at first scheduled for one constant night each week. The Administration claims that when Saga began rotating the night each week, it was against the terms of the contract. Chancellor Highsmith has been singularly uncooperative in making comment on the situation.

The controversy now is magnified beyond the original argument over steak night. Presently, student dissatisfaction has extended to the quality, diversity and quantity of the meals offered by the food service.

There is another side to the picture, however.

Spelman says that he doesn't completely understand the whole mess. The Administration is responsible for all equipment used by the food service. Saga merely leased the building and the equipment to set up its organization. It is Spelman's contention that the students don't understand the difficulties involved in the preparation of food at UNC-A.

An example is fried chicken.

Students have petitioned that it is dry and stale by the time it is served at dinner. Spelman agrees but he adds that there just is not sufficient equipment in the kitchen for a food operation as large as the one at UNC-A.

Just this year, the cafeteria finally received a walk-in refrigerator but that is the extent of the major appliances that have been added to the kitchen in the past two years. The snack shop has seen numerous additions in the past years but the kitchen is still badly in need of more equipment. Extra ovens are immediately needed. In the past almost all of the desserts have been home cooked, so to speak, but the shortage of cooking space has forced Saga to buy local bakery products and frozen; pre-cooked foods to replace the other desserts. The increased price of these bakery goods, of course, is another drain on Saga.

Just last week, one of the refrigerators in the kitchen died of old age and a replacement is badly needed.

The hold-up in new equipment is the state budget for additions which was submitted last year. Money on the state level is tight and many of the requests were either cut or eliminated entirely. There just isn't enough money for the additions to the kitchen is the

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photo by Curtis White

Ruth Jones, one of the cooks in the UNC-A cafeteria, feels that lack of equipment is one of the worst problems besetting Saga. Recent student complaints about the service Saga provides have prompted more Administrative action. Bill Pott, Business Manager for UNC-A began in mid-December taking bids for other food services to replace Saga.

The Administration is also contemplating managing the food service on its own.