

# the RIDGERUNNER

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

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## 24-HOUR COMPUTER SERVICE AVAILABLE

by Larry Hill

UNC-A has installed a new mini-computer system which will be dedicated to educational uses. It is designed to be easy to use and will enable all students and faculty to have access to a computer terminal 24 hours a day.

Here is a brief description of the mini-computer system now on campus:

- 1) Capability to support 16 terminals.
- 2) Interactive programming using the basic language.
- 3) System will support various program packages containing commonly used routines.
- 4) Simulations and programs can be stored on system for use by persons with little or no programming skill.
- 5) Students may store their own individual programs on system.

There are three terminals now on campus for general use; a teletype terminal in the library on the second floor, a teletype terminal in the Social Science building in room 212, and a cathode ray terminal in the Science Tower, room 101. These terminals are available for use by all students and faculty at any time with directions for using the computer present at each of the locations. A fourth terminal in the computer will be used primarily for systems management.

A new full-time programmer has been appointed by the computing center. Mr. Bill Fuller will, after an initial period of training begin various programming projects plus manage the daily operations of the center.

Any instructor or user wanting immediate instruction in the use of the new system should contact Jim Vinson so that whatever demonstrations or workshops wanted can be arranged.

A course, Science 200

Computers, Games, and Simulations, will be offered next term for two credit hours. This course will be designed to introduce elementary programming and use of the computer, with educational uses being stressed. The first part of this course could serve as a workshop for interested faculty; and UNC-A faculty interested in having their students become familiar with the use of the new computer should encourage them to take this course.

A similar course will be offered in the evening next semester which will introduce students of any discipline to computer uses. These classes will be held on Mondays and Wednesdays between four and five o'clock. Practice sessions will be arranged at the students' convenience.

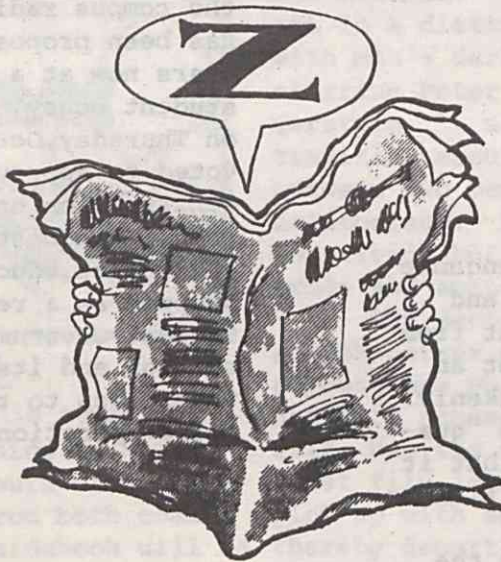
Students and faculty are urged to communicate any ideas or suggestions concerning the computer system to a member of the Committee on Computer Planning and Use. Members of the committee are: Mr. Jim Vinson, chairman, Mr. John Bernhardt, Mr. F. Coyle, Mr. B. Farzane-gan, Mr. Milton Ready, Mr. George Kramer, Mr. Goetz Wolff, and Pat Hickey and Katharine Poovey.

This committee is responsible for the plans and policies for the computing activities.

At the present time, Asheville Country Day School and Newfound School are connected with UNC-A's system, together with McDowell High School in Marion, N.C., to have been connected by mid October.

These on campus terminals resulted in quite heavy use in the first month of operation, with an average connect time of 22.6 hours per day, which is quite a good average considering how new our system is.

Students are encouraged to find and become acquainted with the terminals, and use them.



The **RIDGERUNNER** is your paper. Any comments or criticism is not only helpful, but welcome. The office is open from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m. every day, or if an appointment is desired, call 254-7415, or extension 343.

## CHANCELLOR ANNOUNCES FIVE YEAR PLAN

by Bill Cable

Chancellor Highsmith recently released copies of a five-year plan for the university which will be presented to the board of trustees and the board of Governors. The sixty-three page statement provides a brief history of the school, a comprehensive look at its current status, and some startling proposals for the future of UNCA. While it is true that the new proposals will require additional funding and approval from the Board of Governors, it appears the next five years could involve a change in direction for the University of North Carolina at Asheville.

The Chancellor repeatedly emphasizes in the statement his desire to see UNCA remain a liberal arts college while at the same time expanding its curriculum to include "undergraduate programs with professional and career orientation" and "graduate work leading to degrees at the master's level." The implications of such an expansion are substantial and a considerable amount of evidence is presented in an attempt to justify the expansion proposal.

The proposed new areas of study include music, management, nursing and health sciences, and environmental studies in the under-

graduate category, and teaching, arts, and management on the graduate level.

With the expected increase in enrollment those additional programs should bring to the UNCA campus, the University would hope to provide expanded and improved services for students. The statement calls for converting the present Dormitory Village to single rooms housing graduate and advanced undergraduate students only, with a new dormitory complex constructed and maintained by a private corporation for the remaining undergraduate students. The plans for the facility include a food service

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## Pocket Wilderness

Bowater Carolina Corporation President Robert Herdman has invited the public to take part in the dedication ceremony of over 500 acres of land as the fifth area in the Bowater Pocket Wilderness program. The dedication will be on November 2, at 9:30 AM.

The area, seven miles south of Marion near Glenwood, is one of the largest set aside for protection in its natural state by Bowater.

An eight mile loop trail established in

## THE STUDENT AND THE STAMP

There is a question on campus today about whether or not the US Government actually intends to treat the students of our university like the rest of the citizenry. Well dearly beloved, they just might.

The miracle of food stamps, manna from heaven, freebies, et. al., these little goodies, if you can pick up on them, can stretch your survival funds over quite a while, even leaving enough for a couple of six packs.

You ask, dear heart, how might I gain the grace of the Feds? Easy. You must be the head of a household, (so far, dorm rooms qualify), you must not make more than \$195 a month, (deductions are made for medical and scholastic expenses), swear faithfully that you will store and eat separately the food you purchase with your stamps, (you cannot even slip some to your room mate who blew his on Baby Ruth bars), and if you are residing in the dorms the University must verify that you can store the food in your room.

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the area is rugged and tedious, but is the only development in the entire wilderness area. Boundaries are marked on the ground, with side trails leading to waterfalls and overlooks. An alternate loop trail of four miles can be done in about four hours.

Location maps and additional details on the Bob's Creek dedication hike may be obtained by writing to the public relations department, Bowaters Carolina Corporation, Catawba, SC, 29704.