

RIDGERUNNER

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT ASHEVILLE

STUDENTS RECEIVE NSF GRANT

The University of North Carolina at Asheville will receive an \$18,170 National Science Foundation grant to study natural reclamation of abandoned strip mines in the Spruce Pine area.

Announcement of the NSF award, the third in five years to UNC-A, was made Tuesday by Dr. James D. Perry, associate professor of biology, and Dr. Roy A. Riggs, Vice Chancellor of Academic affairs.

Gene Spears, a senior biology major from Canton, has been named student project director for UNC-A's Student Originated Studies (SOS) project, one of two going this year to North Carolina institutions of higher learning. UNC-Chapel Hill received a \$21,550 SOS grant for zoology research.

Spears will direct a 12-member student research team with Dr. Perry serving as faculty project advisor. Plans call for a 12-week study this summer.

The UNC-A grant was one of 81 totaling \$1.1 million awarded

to student-initiated planned and directed studies, aimed at exploring national problems, according to NSF.

Already named to serve with Spears on the UNC-A research team are Joe Bailey, Alice Jackson, Tim Galloway, Rick Davis, Jim Baker, Otto Tysland, Russ Varner, Vicki Cassada, Lane Buckner.

"Our study will be of plant succession in abandoned strip mines in the Spruce Pine district of the Appalachian Mountains," Spears said. "Mining has been carried out on an industrial scale for almost a century, offering a unique opportunity to study the natural succession of plants over different time intervals."

The study will consist of a two-fold approach to the problem. Spears said that the team will first gather chemical and physical data from six abandoned mining areas, including soil analyses, rainfall, prevailing winds and temperature.

NIMOY SURPRISES FANS

Grover Cable

The posters were up. Mr. Spock is coming. No use worrying about most college people saying "Who?" We know who. And these hints were confirmed when the formal posters announcing the visit of Leonard Nimoy soon appeared on the bulletin boards and walls about campus. Mr. Spock is fundamental. Mr. Spock is an acquaintance of 95% of college students and intimately known (as intimately as he can be known) by numerous Star Trek freaks. Spock is important to us for many reasons. The character of Mr. Spock in the Star Trek series was a fascinating one, tangible in all respects to what scientific advancement we see growing about and over us, a combination of eugenic breeding and some human "corruption". But for the uninformed, for the Public At Large, for cognizant parents of children who noticed their kids watching animated Star Trek on Saturdays, for the one or two who recognized the face from the last shows of the Mission Impossible series, the posters, and finally, the radio, newspapers, and television people told then Leonard Nimoy was coming to Lipinsky to give a lecture, or talk, entitled "Odyssey to the Borders of the Mind". Odyssey—yes. 2001: A Space Odyssey. Science fiction, space travel, time warp, dilithium crystals, phasers, Clingon ships, and Lieutenant Uhura. Spock was coming.

There were about thirty people milling around the administration building just shortly before the scheduled 3:30 press conference with Leonard Nimoy. Most of us who KNEW were walking about and chatting excitedly. The press conference room on the

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ROTARY AMBASSADORS AT UNC-A

Each year the Rotary Foundation sponsors a group exchange program designed to send outstanding businessmen to a district in another county for study of problems and solutions in each man's field of interest. April 11, UNC-A was the sight of one of their visits, members District 269 in Australia. As they took a brief tour of campus, I was privileged to be able to explain particular problems and characteristics within the university complex in North Carolina, as well as, ask my own questions about the nature of tertiary education in Australia.

Mr. Paul Baker, a government youth administrative officer from Caleramatta, N.S.W., had sensed a difference in attitudes towards career opportunities between American and Australian students. In Australia, he explained, there seemed to be a different emphasis on skills training than here. It was

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AWARDS ASSEMBLY HELD

On April 16, the awards assembly was held in Lipinsky Auditorium. Recognized were outstanding students from all walks of campus life, from academics to sports.

The oldest award given at UNC-A, the A.C. Reynolds Citizenship award, was won by Pat Hickey. Criteria for selecting the winning student for this involves superior academic and extra-curricular standing. It is the highest award presented by UNC-A.

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UNDERGRADUATE REVIEW

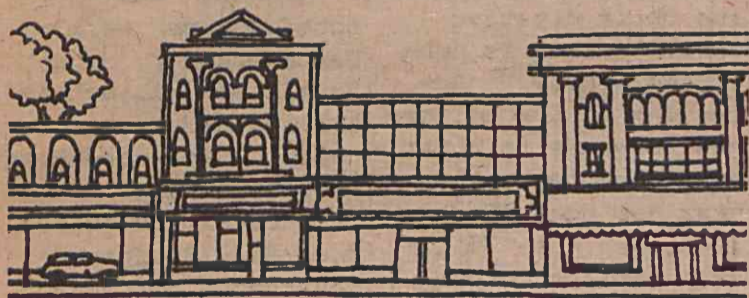
NOW AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORE

The Political Science Association has published the Undergraduate Review, first of its kind for the association.

Editors of the journal included Pamela Thompson, Political Theory editor, Frank Dossier and Mike Hughey, American Politics editors, Ed Sheary, International Relations editor, Charles Campbell, editor of Comparative Politics, and James A. Jones as Editor-in-Chief.

The first issue included a work by Dossier and Hughey which received the first place award as Best Undergraduate research paper in Political Science in 1974 by the N.C. Political Science Association. Subject of the paper was "Civic Education, Political Recruitment and Democratic Values."

Kim Manning, vice president of the UNC-A Political Science association is in charge of the journal's distribution; at UNC-A, the Undergraduate Review is available in the bookstore.



UNC-MERRIMON: art dept. expands

UNC-A has expanded somewhat, and now has an off-campus addition to the art department. Located in the formerly Gold Stamps Store on Merrimon Avenue, the new building is used exclusively for three dimensional work, with the two dimensional classes and labs remaining on the second floor of the Humanities building.

Whereas the three dimensional section of the art depart-

ment previously had under 1700 square feet, they now have 9,000. This allows for separate sections for the different types of work being done. There is now separate floor space for the ceramics, sculpture, weaving, and jewelry work being done, and for the first time no one has to be chased out in order for someone else to be able to work or for a class to be held.