

Volume 2, Number 5

Thursday, February 24, 1983

McDonald expresses worries

Alcohol consumption causes concern

The volume of alcohol consumed on campus is a major concern to those responsible for planning and directing student activities accor-ding to Dr. Eric Iovacchini, vice chancellor for student affairs.

Iovacchini said, "Ninety percent of the offenses on campus such as vandalism and assaults are alcohol related.

lated." Sharyn McDonald, student center/activities director, said, "We have trouble that is alcohol-related at every dance. At the last three dances holes were knocked in the men's room and at the last dance a hole was knocked in the ladies' room.

McDonald said she, program coordinator Jerry Richman, and a security officer are present at the dances. The security officers are hesitant to work singly because of the problems

they are encountering at the dances. McDonald and Iovacchini em-phasized that it is a minority of students involved. However, McDonald said, "it is the mind of some college students that college means partying, drinking and seeing how high you can get. The rate of alcoholism of college students is staggering." Iovacchini pointed out that the problem is not unique to UNCA, but is nation wide.

Both administrators see an increased sense of responsibility on the part of the students as the key to the problem. Iovacchini said, "We must find a reasonable balance between having alcohol and not having it at all. Students must act like adults and be responsible." McDonald said, "Drunken be-"Drunken be-



Student Activities Director Sharyn McDonald says the high drinking figures concern her and other administration personnel.

havior and drinking and driving cannot be tolerated. Drinking is a socially acceptable thing to do. We want to try to set things up so students can have a drink and have a good time but still be responsible."

The alcoholic beverage policy of the university allows beer and wine

to be served at university functions. However, the university does not have a license to sell beer and wine so it must be "given away," according to McDonald. The beverages served at functions sponsored by the program board are purchased with student activity fee money. Each

keg of beer costs \$38. McDonald said, "We usually have three to four hundred students at our dances. We have found that seven kegs of beer are sufficient. A keg will pour 200 glasses. Recently we purchased five kegs of beer and four cases of wine. Wine is a more sophisticated drink and people tend to drink it more slowly. Of course we serve soda for those students who don't drink beer or wine.

Students are also allowed to bring in beer and wine McDonald said. "The alcoholic policy at UNCA is incredibly loose compared to other schools," she said.

A committee of faculty, staff and students is being appointed to look at the present alcoholic beverage policy and see how UNCA compares with the other 15 institutions that make up the state university system.

In preparation for the study, McDonald has contacted the 15 universities to determine their alcoholic policies. She said, Western Carolina allows no alcohol at parties and dances in the student center. UNC-Wilmington uses no fee money to purchase alcoholic beverages. Students may bring in a six-pack of beer or one bottle of wine

The new drinking laws being proposed in Raleigh are a major concern to McDonald. If Gov. Hunt's dram shop proposal passes, the university would be liable for any damages caused to property or people as the result of a student leaving a university sponsored function intoxicated.

continued on page 8

Selective services requires registration

By John Edwards

As if there weren't enough to keep the folks in the financial aid office busy, Congress has added another bureaucratic burden to their heavyladen shoulders, according to Carolyn McElrath, director of financial aid.

Effective July 1, 1983, a recent amendment to the Military Selective Service Act will be implemented, which reads in part:

... beginning with the 1983-84 award year, any student required to register with Selective Service who fails to do so is ineligible for...student

financial aid."

What this means to the people in the financial aid office is another mountain of paperwork with which to contend. What it means to students, specifically, "men who are at least 18 years old and born after December 31, 1959," is that they can't get financial aid unless they can prove they have registered for the draft.

The registration process is easy and takes very little time. The process only takes a few minutes at any U.S. Post Office by picking up and filling out the blue and white Selective Service System Registration Form (SSS Form 1) and showing identification and the completed form to the postal clerk.

Within 90 days, the student will receive a Registration Acknowledgement Letter (SSS Form 3A or 3AS). This letter will be used to verify registration before the student can apply for financial aid.

Signed into law by President Reagan on September 8, 1982, the amendment will virtually affect all students on college campuses across the nation. Though a final regula-tion has not been published by the Department of Education, and details of implementation of the amendment are still "up in the air," McElrath says the amendment will

cause a network of paper chasing within all departments throughout the educational institutions.

Since details are still pending as to exactly how the new law will be implemented in the future, McElrath emphasizes the fact that registra-tion for the draft will determine a student's eligibility for aid in the coming summer and fall terms. "The Department of Education has proposed a 'statement of compliance' which all students will be required to sign, whether or not they are eligi-ble for the draft," she said. The present law allows educa-

tional institutions to opt whether or continued on page 8